September 11, 2019—Ebola DRC Modeling Coordination Call
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Dr. Rae Wannier—Role of Conflict in Driving transmission in 18-19 EVD Outbreak

- Lots of conflict in region, how does it contribute to transmission in the outbreak
    - Strong correlation between conflict events and increased transmission
- What kinds of conflicts are causing increased transmission?
- Conflict to Impact Transmissions
    - Interrupt contact tracing
    - Reduce care seeking behavior
    - Reduces uptake of vaccine
    - Temp evac of Ebola relief workers
- Conflict Events directly targeting EBOV-related relief efforts
    - ACLED data
    - WHO data
- Analysis
    - R for overall outbreak is hovering around 1.0
    - Most interested in 21-day effect window
- Estimated R Time Series by District
    - Caution: Military Political Conflict and EBOV-protests
        - N for those two categories are very small, approach with caution
    - "Vile morte", shows that there is a significant impact, not a huge sample size
- Conclusions
    - Conflict appears to contribute to increased transmission in current outbreak
    - Direct EBOV-related conflict appears to have greater impact than indirect contact

Dr. Trevor Bedford—Using Nextstrain to track the North Kivu Ebola Outbreak

- All code open source at gibhub.com/nextstrain
- Conceivable run every day as new data arrives
- Data available at Nextstrain, phylogenetic trees interactive by geographic region
    - Look for specific permutations in the landscape
- 349 full genomes sequences (13.5% of confirmed cases), most recent sequenced viruses collected Aug. 20
- Aiding in contact tracing for Ebola Outbreak response
- Tensions between Institut National pour la Recherche Biomedicale (INRB) and Ministry of Health
- Trevor→push for data to be made as publicly as possible
    - Not entirely sure how to engage with field epidemiologists, possible training session in Goma

No Questions directed at MIDAS during group discussion; most questions focused on Nextstrain project