

France reports first Ebola case

Paris: A doctor who recently returned to France from a humanitarian mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo has tested positive for Ebola, marking the country's first confirmed case linked to the current outbreak, the health ministry said on Wednesday.

The patient was placed in isolation and health authorities were tracing contacts, the ministry said in a statement, adding that the risk to the wider European population was low.

Congo's Ebola outbreak is linked to the rare Bundibugyo strain of the virus. It has infected more than 1,000 people and killed 267 — generating the largest number of confirmed cases within the first month of any episode of the disease, the World Health Organisation said this week.

Experts say the disease was probably circulating for months before it was officially declared on May 15.

Reuters
