

JANUARY 8, 2017

Sunday Monitor

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Red eyes disease breaks out in Gulu

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KAMPALA: The Ministry of Health has confirmed an outbreak of conjunctivitis, also known as red eyes in Gulu District, specifically in Gulu Main Prison, Pece Prison, Gulu Remand Home and Gulu Main Police Station.

A press statement issued by the acting Director-General of Health Services, Prof Anthony Mbonye, on Friday indicated that 798 suspected cases have so far been reported within the mentioned places. Other cases were reported in Lugore, Labworomor, Patiko, Lukodi, Punena, Coope, and Bardege health centres in December last year.

“Conjunctivitis is caused by bacteria or viruses and can spread easily from person to person, but is not a serious health risk if diagnosed and treated immediately,” Prof Mbonye added.

The disease symptoms include redness in the white of the eye or inner eyelid, increased amount of tears, thick yellow discharge that crusts over the eyelashes, especially after sleep, Itchy eyes, blurred vision and increased sensitivity to light.

HEALTH ALERT

Watch out. The Ministry of Health appeals to the public to observe the following measures to avert the spread of the disease.

- Maintain high sanitation standards