

## Budaka health centres lack delivery beds

BY MUDANGHA KOLYANGHA  
editorial@ug.nationmedia.com

**BUDAKA:** Eleven out of the 15 health centres providing maternal health services in Budaka District have only one delivery bed, *Daily Monitor* has established.

This has forced health workers at times to use tables and mats as delivery beds.

Some of the health centres include Kamonkoli, Kemeruka, Kaderuna, Lyama, Naboia, Mugiti, Iki-Iki, and Nasanga.

Budaka District deputy health officer Sam Wajega, admitted that the district health units are ill-equipped.

"For every health facility, at least [There should be] two delivery beds but currently, each has only one. The challenge is when two or three pregnant mothers come to deliver at once," he said.

According to Mr Wajega, the district cannot afford buying delivery beds to all the health centres because they are too expensive.

"Each delivery bed costs at least Shs1.2m yet we are experiencing budget cuts," he added.

While receiving a delivery bed from Multi-Community Based Development Initiative, a non-government organisation last Thursday, Mr Jimmy Kwemio, the acting officer in charge of Kameruka Health Centre III, said the health centre has been operating without a delivery bed for more than five years after the one they had got broken.

### Shs1.2m

The cost of a delivery bed in a public hospital in Budaka District

Ms Catherine Namugolia, the midwife at Kameruka Health Centre III, said the absence of the delivery beds has been a major challenge as they had resorted to delivering mothers on the floor. She said many expectant mothers have shunned antenatal services at the facility and decided to seek such services from the traditional birth attendants.

"We have requested the Health ministry for support in terms of beds and other facilities and we are waiting for their feedback, Ms Winifred Mutaki, the acting district health officer, said.