

Anxiety as strange disease kills 15 in Delta villages

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Ute-Okpu and Idumuesah communities in Ika North East Local Government Area of Delta State have raised the alarm over outbreak of mysterious disease, which has claim 15 lives in two weeks.

But the Delta State Government said there was no cause for alarm as health authorities have dispatched epidemiologists to the communities to investigate the deaths, identify the causes and effect containment measures.

Delta State Commissioner for Health, Dr. Mordi Ononye

gave the assurance yesterday when he led a team of public health officials to Ute Okpu in Ika North-East Local Government Area in the state.

He urged the residents to observe good hygiene as the dry season sets in.

The state's epidemiologist, Dr. Richard Ikwuogu, said his team had visited the families

of the affected persons and collected their samples.

Dr. Ikwuogu said though there was suspicion of viral hemorrhagic fever, or even drug intoxication, but the outcome of the test on the samples collected would give clear information on the disease which will determine the next line of action.

HRM Obi Solomon Chukwuka I, Obi of Ute Okpu thanked Governor Ifeanyi Okowa for giving the directive that the health centre in his domain be upgraded.

He expressed relief that government's intervention has brought hope to the residents that the disease would be curbed.