



# Marburg Virus Disease Outbreak

**Source:** [DTE](#)

A suspected outbreak of [Marburg virus disease \(MVD\)](#) in **Tanzania's Kagera region** has raised alarm after **claiming 8 lives**.

- **About MVD:** MVD is a **deadly hemorrhagic fever** caused by the Marburg virus, characterized by **high fatality rates of 89%** and the absence of approved treatments.
  - **Symptoms:** The virus causes severe symptoms, including **fever, headache, vomiting blood, and bleeding**, resembling the [Ebola virus](#).
  - **Transmission:** It is transmitted to humans from [fruit bats \(\*Rousettus aegyptiacus\*\)](#) and spreads through direct contact with the **bodily fluids** of infected individuals.
  - **Diagnosis:** It is confirmed using tests such as [RT-PCR \(Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction\)](#).
- **About Tanzania:** Tanzania (formerly **Tanganyika**) is the **largest country in East Africa** and includes the islands of **Zanzibar, Pemba, and Mafia**.
  - It is bordered by the **Indian Ocean** and **eight countries**.
  - It is bordered by 3 of the largest lakes in Africa i.e., [Lake Victoria](#) (world's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest freshwater lake), [Lake Tanganyika](#), and [Lake Nyasa](#).



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