Uganda Conducts Preventive Ebola Vaccine Trial

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Ugandan health authorities reported Tuesday that a trial of a preventive vaccine against Ebola, a contagious disease that causes deadly hemorrhages, was rolled out among health personnel in this African country.

One of the project's principal researchers, Pontiano Kalebu, said the vaccine will be applied to about 800 people over a two-year period in the district of Mbarara, in the southwest of the country, according to the Africa News Website.

Through the trial of the vaccine, manufactured by a Belgian company, we will try to assess 'its safety and ability to provoke an immune response with the aim of fighting the virus,' Kalebu specified.

The Health Ministry of Uganda, which shares a border with the Democratic Republic of Congo to the west, in addition to carrying out the immunological trial, is taking several measures to prevent an outbreak of Ebola, such as strengthening health controls and maintaining adequate personal hygiene.

According to the World Health Organization, Ebola, which has a high mortality rate if not treated in time, is transmitted through direct contact with contaminated blood and body fluids.