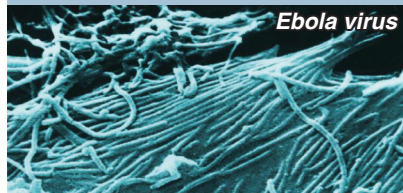
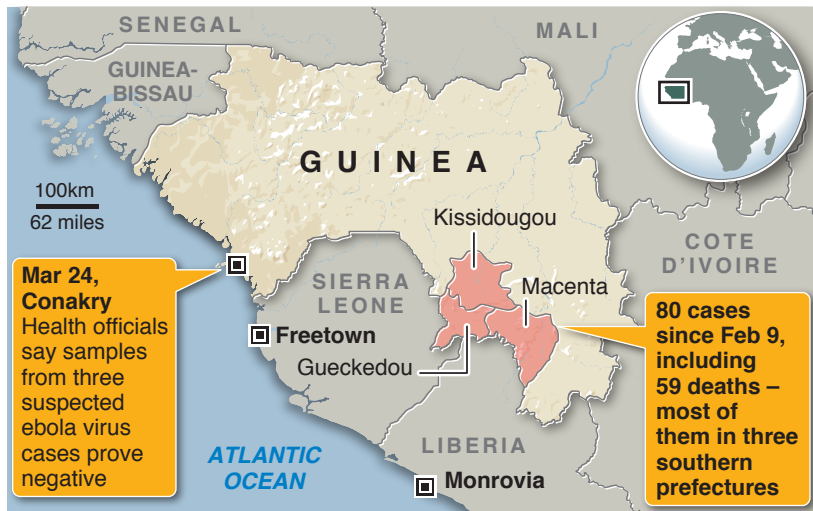


Ebola virus threatens to spread from Guinea

Health workers are battling to contain an outbreak of ebola which has killed more than 50 people in Guinea, amid fears that the virus may spread further to neighbouring Liberia and Sierra Leone



Origins: Ebola first emerged in Sudan and Zaire (now Democratic Republic of Congo) in 1976. Virus has since killed over 1,500 people

Cause: Severe viral haemorrhagic fever. Kills between 25 and 90 percent of those who fall sick, depending on strain of virus

Spread: Transmits rapidly via bodily secretions such as blood, saliva and faeces. Has also occurred by handling sick or dead infected animals, such as monkeys and bats

Symptoms: Include fever, muscle pain, diarrhoea, vomiting, and internal and external bleeding

Treatment: No known cure or vaccine. Patients must be isolated to prevent spread of disease

