

DOHMH Ebola Quick Reference for Healthcare Providers

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT – NOVEMBER 1, 2014



5 Key Things Healthcare Workers Should Know about Ebola

1. **The Ebola virus (EVD) is not easily transmitted** unless there is direct contact (broken skin or unprotected mucous membranes) with a sick person's blood or other bodily fluids (e.g., urine, saliva, feces, vomit, or semen), percutaneous contact with contaminated objects (e.g., needle-stick) or infected animals (e.g., handling of bushmeat). It is not contagious until symptoms appear. It is not airborne. It is not transmitted by casual contact. As of 10/31/2014, the only affected countries in western Africa are **Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea**. For the most up-to-date map of affected countries, please see link 11 below.
2. **Do not hesitate to attend to a person requiring medical attention.** Be prepared to perform interventions (e.g., placement of peripheral IV) as indicated by clinical status, while strictly adhering to infection control and personal protective equipment (PPE) guidelines (see link 5). The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), in consultation with the hospital, may recommend laboratory diagnostics to help identify a likely alternative diagnosis (e.g., malaria, typhoid fever, viral respiratory infection). **Remember that etiologies such as malaria or gastroenteritis are far more likely for sick patients presenting with a history of travel.**
3. **Be prepared to rapidly identify, isolate, stabilize and consult with DOHMH on patients, as needed.** Use the EVD evaluation algorithm (see reverse) to identify, and call the DOHMH Provider Assistance Line (PAL) at **1-866-692-3641** to report as indicated. DOHMH will offer guidance on the management of the patient. Depending on the patient's clinical presentation and exposure history, if indicated, DOHMH will work with the hospital and EMS to arrange a transfer to an Ebola Designated Hospital.
4. **You are never alone.** Call the DOHMH PAL at **1-866-692-3641** 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
5. **Ebola can be controlled.** Recently in Nigeria, they were able to successfully stop the transmission of EVD with infection control, the use of PPE among health care workers, contact tracing, and quarantine. By following proper procedures, EVD can be stopped.

Log Sheet for Suspected Ebola Patient

It is important to monitor and log the flow of hospital personnel entering and exiting the room of any suspected EVD patient in case of a positive EVD test, so that the DOHMH can insure proper follow-up of all staff who may have had contact with the patient. Post hospital security staff at the door of the isolation room to fill out the log. Start a new log at the beginning of each shift. At the end of the shift, submit the log to the charge nurse. Remind staff to **PRINT CLEARLY**.

Laboratory Specimen Handling

Testing for Ebola can be done at the NYC Public Health Laboratory and only after consultation with and approval from the DOHMH. Any patient for whom testing is indicated will likely be transferred to an Ebola Designated Hospital. At this time it is unlikely that Ebola non-Designated hospitals will be asked to collect specimens. To initiate a request to test a patient, call DOHMH PAL at **1-866-692-3641**.

Inter Facility Patient Transfers

The decision to transfer a patient should only be done in consultation with the DOHMH. The DOHMH will work with the hospital and The New York City Fire Department (FDNY) EMS to transfer any suspected EVD patient in the five boroughs of NYC. The NYSDOH Commissioner's Order requires that all healthcare facilities follow the appropriate Federal, State and City protocols.

Useful Links

1. Ebola Virus Case Definition	http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/case-definition.html
2. CDC Ebola Virus Evaluation Algorithm	http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ebola-algorithm.pdf
3. NYS/NYC Laboratory Guidelines for Handling Specimens	http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/cd/ebola-lab-guidelines.pdf
4. Emergency Department Guidance (including PPE Requirements for care of Clinically Stable Patients)	http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ed-algorithm-management-patients-possible-ebola.pdf http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/cd/ebola-guidlines-emergency-dptmts.pdf
5. PPE Requirements for Seriously Ill Patients	http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/procedures-for-ppe.html
6. Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Hospitalized Patients	http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/infection-prevention-and-control-recommendations.html
7. Detailed Hospital Checklist from CDC for Preparedness	http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/hospital-checklist-ebola-preparedness.pdf
8. Guidance for Safe handling of Human Remains	http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/guidance-safe-handling-human-remains-ebola-patients-us-hospitals-mortuaries.html
9. Ebola-Associated Waste Management	http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/medical-waste-management.html
10. Safely Performing Acute Hemodialysis	http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/guidance-dialysis.html
11. Maps of Western Africa with Outbreak Distribution	http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/distribution-map.html#areas
12. FAQ	http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/cd/ebola.pdf



EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE (EVD) EVALUATION ALGORITHM

New York City Department of Health (DOHMH)

(Last updated November 1, 2014)

REPORT TO DOHMH ANY PATIENT WHO HAS:

1. Measured or subjective fever **or** compatible signs or symptoms*
AND
2. Traveled to an Ebola affected area** **or** had contact with a confirmed EVD case in the 21 days before illness onset.

* Including headache, myalgia, weakness, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain or unexplained hemorrhage

** CDC website to check currently affected areas: www.cdc.gov/ebola

No

No need to call DOHMH regarding EVD. Evaluate patient for other travel-related illness. Call DOHMH as needed.

Yes

1. **ISOLATE** patient in single room with private bathroom or covered bedside commode. Only essential personnel with designated roles should evaluate and care for patient using designated equipment.
2. **IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY** appropriate hospital staff, including Infection Control Program.
3. **QUESTION PATIENT** about potential exposures to EVD (*see below*).

Is patient exhibiting obvious bleeding, vomiting, copious diarrhea or a clinical condition that warrants invasive or aerosol-generating procedures (e.g. intubation, suction, active resuscitation)?

Yes

1. Use **PPE** designated for the care of hospitalized EVD patients (www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/procedures-for-ppe.html).
2. If patient requires active resuscitation, use pre-designated area using pre-designated equipment.

No

1. If patient clinically stable, implement standard, contact and droplet precautions including at a minimum;
 - a. **Face Shield and surgical face mask**
 - b. **Impermeable gown**
 - c. **2 pairs of gloves**
 (www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/ed-management-patients-possible-ebola.html)
 If patient's condition changes, reevaluate PPE needs

IMMEDIATELY REPORT to DOHMH at 1-866-692-3641

1. DOHMH will offer guidance on the management of the patient. Depending on the patient's clinical presentation and exposure history, DOHMH may recommend laboratory tests that may help identify a likely alternative diagnosis (e.g., malaria, typhoid fever, viral respiratory infection) or may recommend deferring phlebotomy until transfer to an EVD-Designated Hospital.
2. DOHMH will work with hospitals and EMS to arrange the transfers of a patient to an EVD-Designated Hospital.
3. Perform routine interventions (e.g., placement of peripheral IV) as indicated by clinical status.

Questions to identify a potential EVD exposure

During the past 21 days did the patient:

1. Serve as a health care worker who cared for confirmed or suspect EVD patients?
2. Work in a laboratory that processes specimens from confirmed or suspect EVD patients?
3. Have direct contact with a confirmed or suspect EVD patient and/or their blood or bodily fluids?
4. Participate in funeral rites or have contact with human remains in a location with EVD transmission?
5. Live with an EVD patient?

If yes, to any of the above determine, when and where.