



Public Health Message

From Columbus Public Health & Franklin County Public Health

Ebola Outbreak – Democratic Republic of Congo

Because you are an important public health partner, we wanted to bring you up to date on the newly confirmed Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This is the 9th Ebola outbreak in the DRC since 1976. The DRC Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), is coordinating outbreak response, including isolation of cases, enhanced surveillance, contact tracing, and ring vaccination.

Between April 4 and May 13, 2018, 39 Ebola cases, including 19 deaths, have been reported in DRC. WHO considers the public health risk to be high at the national level, moderate at the regional level, and low at the international level. At present, the outbreak does not meet criteria of an international public health emergency. WHO advises against restriction of travel to DRC based upon currently available information, but continues to closely monitor the situation.

Columbus Public Health and Franklin County Public Health have convened a multidisciplinary group to ensure situational awareness and prepare for response to any potential suspected Ebola cases should they occur.

Health care providers who suspect Ebola should isolate the patient and report immediately to the Infectious Disease Reporting System (IDRS) at 614-525-8888.

Learn more about Ebola at <http://www.who.int/en/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/ebola-virus-disease> and <http://idrsinfo.org/index.php>.

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