



## Health Advisory Update Ebola

October 1, 2014

Columbus Public Health &  
Franklin County Public Health

### What you need to know

The first imported Ebola case has been diagnosed in the United States in a patient with recent travel to Liberia. The Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Senegal currently has 6,574 cases & 3,091 deaths with onset of illness between March and September 2014. The current outbreak in West Africa is the largest since Ebola was first identified in 1976.

In outbreaks, Ebola virus is initially transmitted to humans through contact with infected wildlife, then spread person-to-person through direct contact with body fluids of infected humans. The incubation period is 2-21 days, most commonly 8-10 days.

Ohio Administrative Code 3701-3 mandates immediate reporting to public health of all suspected cases of viral hemorrhagic fever (VHF), including EVD, with or without laboratory confirmation, as well as isolation of cases until no longer infectious.

### What to watch for

Fever, headache, myalgia, fatigue, diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain, loss of appetite and hemorrhage in patients with onset of illness within 21 days of travel to Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Senegal as well as other EVD outbreak affected countries.

### What you can do

Obtain comprehensive travel history for all patients with symptoms consistent with EVD. Healthcare providers who suspect EVD should isolate the case in a single room with standard, contact and droplet precautions and report to Infectious Disease Reporting System (IDRS) immediately at **614.525.8888**. Columbus Public Health & Franklin County Public Health will facilitate viral culture, PCR and serology at Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) for cases with fever  $\geq 101.5^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $38.6^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), clinically compatible illness and epidemiologic risk factors.

What is this? **Learn more about this emergency notification system.**

### Who is at risk

#### High Risk Exposure

Percutaneous or mucous membrane exposure to blood or body fluids of an EVD patient

Direct skin contact with, or exposure to blood or body fluids of, an EVD patient without appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

Processing blood or body fluids of a confirmed EVD patient without appropriate PPE or standard biosafety precautions

Direct contact with a dead body without appropriate PPE in an EVD outbreak affected country

#### Low Risk Exposure

Household contact with an EVD patient

Other close contact with an EVD patient in healthcare facilities or community settings

#### No Known Exposure

Having been in an EVD affected country within the past 21 days and having had no exposures

### To learn more

#### Ebola

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/index.html>

First Imported Ebola Case Diagnosed in the United States

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/united-states-imported-case.html>

Infectious Disease Reporting System

<http://idrsinfo.org>

### Contact

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