



Health Advisory
01/06/2015
Ebola Screening Update
Please distribute to all providers in your practice

Current Situation:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) are removing Mali from the list of Ebola-affected nations, effective January 6, 2015.

Travelers from Mali will no longer be required to undergo enhanced screening and monitoring when entering the United States. The last Ebola patient in Mali tested negative on December 5, 2014, and there are currently no active cases.

The ongoing Ebola outbreak continues in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Screening and monitoring measures remain in place for travelers entering the United States from these three countries. Travel notices for Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone remain in effect, with travelers advised to avoid nonessential travel to the three countries with Ebola outbreaks.

We recommend that providers review current guidelines for screening and identifying patients with recent travel to Ebola-affected countries. *The situation in the US and guidance for clinicians continues to change rapidly.* Check the CDC and CDPH websites for the most recent information and guidelines. **Early recognition and appropriate infection control precautions are critical for disease control.**

THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS CONTINUE TO BE REQUESTED OF CLINICIANS

1. **SCREEN**-Establish a process to screen all patients for Ebola exposure within the past 21 days **at first contact with facility**. Ebola exposure includes:
 - a. Travel from a country with widespread Ebola transmission (Liberia, Sierra Leone, or Guinea) **OR**
 - b. Contact with an individual with confirmed Ebola infection
2. **ASSESS** patients screening positive for Ebola exposure within the past 21 days for any signs or symptoms of disease:
 - a. Signs and symptoms include fever (subjective or $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ or 38.0°C), headache, weakness, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, or unexplained bleeding
3. **ISOLATE IMMEDIATELY** any patients with both Ebola exposure **AND** signs or symptoms of Ebola disease
 - a. Use private room or separate enclosed area with private bathroom, bedside commode or bedpans/basins
 - b. Implement standard, contact, and droplet precautions, with airborne precautions for aerosol-generating procedures—in accordance with most recent guidelines from CDC, CDPH, and CalOSHA.
 - c. Minimize staff and family contact to that which is essential for the assessment and immediate well-being of patient
 - d. Use dedicated equipment for any suspect case, if possible.
4. **REPORT SUSPECT EBOLA CASES IMMEDIATELY**
 - a. Report by phone to Berkeley Public Health at **(510) 981-5300** during business hours or **(510) 981-5911** evenings or weekends (ask for the Health Officer)
 - b. Alert designated facility Infection Control Practitioner, if relevant
 - c. Also report patients with Ebola exposure as defined in #1 above **who do not** have signs or symptoms of Ebola
5. **USE PPE** according to current guidance to the greatest extent possible
 - a. If the patient is bleeding, vomiting, or having diarrhea, or if the clinical condition warrants invasive or aerosol-generating procedures (e.g., intubation, suctioning, active resuscitation), PPE designated for the care of hospitalized patients as outlined in CDC guidance[†] must be used
6. **Do NOT refer suspect Ebola patients to an Emergency Department, hospital, or other facility, or call for medical transport without first consulting with the Health Officer On-Call**



Health, Housing & Community Services Department
Public Health Division
(510) 981-5300

Janet Berreman, MD, MPH
Health Officer

Health Advisory
01/06/2015
Ebola Screening Update
Please distribute to all providers in your practice

Healthcare providers should:

Post signs by entry and triage areas asking patients to immediately inform staff if they are ill and recently traveled to Ebola affected countries (Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone).

Resources:

CHDP Ebola Virus Information: <http://cdph.ca.gov/programs/cder/Pages/Ebola.aspx>

CDC Ebola Virus Information: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/>

CDPH - Ebola Preparedness and Response for Outpatient and Ambulatory Care Settings (PDF):

[CDPH - Ebola Preparedness and Response for Outpatient and Ambulatory Care Settings](#)

Cal/OSHA - Interim Guidance on Ebola Virus in Inpatient Hospital Settings:

<http://cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/Cal-OSHA-Guidance-on-Ebola-Virus-for-Hospitals%2011-14-2014.pdf>