



Ebola Facts

October 15, 2014



American Hospital
Association

Hospital Preparedness Checklist

- Every hospital should ensure that it can detect a patient with Ebola, protect health care workers, and respond in a coordinated fashion.
- Many signs and symptoms of Ebola are non-specific and similar to common diseases.
- Transmission can be prevented with appropriate infection control measures.
- Checklist highlights key areas for hospital emergency management officers, infection control practitioners, and clinicians to detect possible Ebola cases, protect employees, and respond appropriately.
- Hospitals should review infection control procedures and incorporate plans for administrative, environmental, and communication measures, as well as personal protective equipment (PPE) training and education.
- Hospitals should also define the individual work practices that will be required to detect the introduction of a patient with Ebola, prevent spread, and manage the impact on patients, the hospital, and staff.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;. Accessed October 15, 2014
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/hospital-checklist-ebola-preparedness.pdf>

Hospital Preparedness Checklist

Detect:

- Screen patients for symptoms and risk factors for Ebola, including fever of greater than 101.5 degrees and travel to West Africa (in particular, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone).
- Patients meeting criteria should be immediately isolated and tested.
- Conduct periodic checks to confirm screening procedures and notification, isolation and personal protective equipment (PPE) procedures.

Protect:

- Use CDC-recommended infection control practices
- Review, implement and drill with first-contact personnel, clinicians, ancillary staff, and others as appropriate on:
 - Infectious disease procedures and protocols
 - Triage techniques and Ebola screening questions
 - Disease identification, testing, specimen collection and transport procedures
 - Isolation, quarantine and security procedures
 - Communications and reporting procedures
 - Cleaning and disinfection procedures

Respond:

- All staff should know what to do when encountering a suspected Ebola patient.
- Ebola is a nationally notifiable disease and must be reported to public health authorities.
- Ensure hospital is in contact with local/state health department to confirm communication strategies.
- Review plans and protocols, and exercise/test ability to share relevant health data.

Source: American Hospital Association, adapted from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Detailed Hospital Checklist for Ebola Preparedness. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/hospital-checklist-ebola-preparedness.pdf> Accessed October 15, 2014