

Ebola Fact Sheet

DESCRIPTION	Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) is characterized by sudden onset of fever ≥ 101.5 and any of the following: severe headache, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and unexplained hemorrhage. Ebola virus is typically first spread to humans after contact with infected wildlife and is then spread person-to-person through direct contact with bodily fluids such as blood, urine, sweat, semen, and breast milk.
INCUBATION PERIOD	Ranges from 2-21 days, but is usually 8-10 days
PRECAUTIONS IN THE HOSPITAL AND IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT	Standard, droplet, and contact precautions MUST be followed. Use special signage called “Extreme Biohazard Precautions” available from the Infection Prevention Department.
HEALTH CARE WORKER PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)	Healthcare workers MUST wear: gloves, gown (fluid resistant or impermeable), shoe covers, eye protection (goggles or face shield), and a facemask. Additional PPE may be required in certain situations (e.g., copious amounts of blood, other body fluids, vomit, or feces present in the environment), including but not limited to double gloving, disposable shoe covers, leg and head coverings.
AEROSOL-GENERATING PROCEDURES	Avoid aerosol-generating procedures. If performing these procedures, PPE MUST include respiratory protection (N95 filtering face piece respirator or higher) and the procedure MUST be performed in an airborne negative pressure room.
VISITORS	No visitors will be permitted until confirmation of diagnosis.
ROOM ASSIGNMENT	Single patient room, containing a private bathroom with the door closed. Facilities will maintain a log of all persons entering the patient’s room. Use negative pressure room if performing aerosol-generating procedures.
PREVENTION	There is no FDA approved vaccine for Ebola.
ENVIRONMENTAL INFECTION CONTROL	Diligent environmental cleaning and disinfection and safe handling of potentially contaminated materials is vital. Our current hospital approved disinfectants are classified by the EPA as effective against viruses, including the Ebola viruses. Personnel performing cleaning and disinfection MUST wear recommended PPE (described above) and consider use of additional barriers (e.g. head and leg coverings) if needed. Face protection (face shield or facemask with goggles) MUST be worn when performing tasks such as liquid waste disposal that can generate splashes.
ROUTINE LABORATORY TESTING	Follow normal testing guidelines. Use of PPE, including mask, face shield, double gloves, gowns and shoe covers are required. All specimens must be hand delivered to the laboratory. DO NOT use the pneumatic tube system.
EBOLA SPECIFIC/CONFIRMATORY TESTING	Specific instructions are available from the lab for specimens requiring submission to the State or the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
EMPLOYEE MANAGEMENT	Individuals who develop sudden onset of fever, intense weakness, muscle pains, vomiting, diarrhea, or any signs of hemorrhage after an unprotected exposure to a patient with Ebola MUST NOT report to work and seek prompt medical attention and notify your manager and Corporate Care (Employee Health).