

ASPR/CDC Ebola Screening Criteria

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response have issued the attached Ebola screening criteria (<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/evd-screening-criteria.pdf>) for the entire health care community, including emergency responders, to ensure that they are able to protect, detect and respond to the virus. They recommend that these screening criteria be placed in all emergency departments, ambulances and other “first contact” locations, including outpatient clinics.

The AHA strongly encourages all hospitals and clinics to post these Ebola screening criteria prominently in locations where hospital staff – including intake, triage and clinical staff – can see it. The key to preventing the spread of Ebola is to identify and isolate potential cases as quickly as possible. This outbreak is the largest in history and is primarily affecting countries in West Africa. It is most active in Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. CDC has posted (<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/distribution-map.html#areas>) the major affected areas in each of these countries, and this information should be factored into the screening taking place in hospital emergency departments, outpatient clinics, ambulances and other “first contact” locations. Please visit CDC’s Ebola website (<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola>) regularly for the latest information. CDC officials are available to assist 24/7 by calling the CDC Emergency Operations Center at 770-488-7100 or via email at eocreport@cdc.gov.

The AHA has updated its Ebola preparedness webpage (<http://www.aha.org/advocacy-issues/emergreadiness/ebola.shtml>) with resources that hospitals and health systems, as well as emergency response personnel, can use to prepare for Ebola and will continue to share resources with the field as they become available. Hospital leaders Oct. 1 received an advisory (<http://www.aha.org/advisories>) with related information, including the CDC’s Detailed Hospital Checklist for Ebola Preparedness (<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/hospital-checklist-ebola-preparedness.pdf>).



Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Screening

Emergency Department screening criteria for patient isolation/testing are likely to be:

1. Fever, headache, joint and muscle aches, weakness, fatigue, diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain and lack of appetite, and in some cases bleeding.

AND

2. Travel to West Africa (Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone or other countries where EVD transmission has been reported by WHO) within 21 days (3 weeks) of symptom onset.

If both criteria are met, then the patient should be moved to a private room with a bathroom, and STANDARD, CONTACT, and DROPLET precautions followed during further assessment.

IMMEDIATELY Report Person Under Investigation (PUI) for Ebola to:

1. Hospital Leadership:
2. Local and State Public Health Authorities:
3. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) by calling the CDC Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at 770-488-7100 or via email at eocreport@cdc.gov .

Sources: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/case-definition.html>, <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/han/han00364.asp>,
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/infection-prevention-and-control-recommendations.html>



Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Screening for EMS

EMS patient assessment criteria for isolation/hospital notification are likely to be:

- 1.** Fever, headache, joint and muscle aches, weakness, fatigue, diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain and lack of appetite, and in some cases bleeding.

AND

- 2.** Travel to West Africa (Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone or other countries where EVD transmission has been reported by WHO) within 21 days (3 weeks) of symptom onset.

If both criteria are met:

- A. The patient should be isolated and STANDARD, CONTACT, and DROPLET precautions followed during further assessment, treatment, and transport.
- B. IMMEDIATELY report suspected Ebola cases to receiving facility.

If patient is not transported (refusal, pronouncement, etc.):

- a. Inform Local and State Public Health Authorities:
- b. Inform the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), available 24/7 at 770-488-7100, or via the CDC Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or via email at eocreport@cdc.gov.