



**San Mateo County Health System
Communicable Disease Control Program**

Main (650) 573-2346
After Hours (650) 363-4981
Fax (650) 573-2919

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Health Advisory: Ebola Virus Disease

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On September 30, 2014 the first case of Ebola diagnosed in the United States was confirmed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The incident occurred in a traveler from Liberia, West Africa, where there currently is an outbreak of Ebola. On October 2, the CDC issued a Health Advisory (<http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00371.asp>) containing guidance to clinicians regarding identification, isolation, and immediate reporting of any suspect Ebola cases to the local health department. The traveler who was hospitalized in Dallas, Texas, died from complications due to Ebola. **As described in the CDC Health Advisory dated 10/2/14, EARLY RECOGNITION AND APPROPRIATE INFECTION CONTROL PRECAUTIONS ARE CRITICAL FOR CONTROLLING THE SPREAD OF THIS DISEASE.**

ACTIONS REQUESTED OF SAN MATEO COUNTY CLINICIANS:

1. **CONSIDER EBOLA** in patients with **fever (>38.6°C/101.5°F) and symptoms** such as severe headache, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and/or unexplained hemorrhage, with **ANY of the following risk factors** in the **21 days prior to onset of illness**:
 - a. Travel to, or residence in, an area where there is currently a high incidence of disease transmission, specifically, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Nigeria (**For updated list of countries affected by Ebola:** <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/distribution-map.html>), **OR**
 - b. Contact with blood, other body fluids, and/or human remains of a person known to have or suspected to have Ebola, **OR**
 - c. Direct handling of bats or primates from disease-endemic areas (as listed above).
2. **IMMEDIATELY ISOLATE AND IMPLEMENT STANDARD, CONTACT AND DROPLET PRECAUTIONS** for suspected cases. If aerosol-generating procedures are to be performed on suspected cases, **ADD AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS**.
3. **REPORT** any suspected Ebola cases **IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE** to San Mateo County Communicable Disease Control at **(650) 573-2346**, during business hours, and (650) 363-4981 nights, weekends and holidays.
4. **TEST** suspected cases. Collect a minimum volume of 4 mL of whole blood in **PLASTIC** collection tubes and promptly refrigerate. Do not separate or remove serum or plasma from the primary collection container. Contact San Mateo County Public Health Laboratory during business hours **(650) 573-2500** for instructions regarding proper storage and transport of specimens. Additional guidance for clinical laboratories is available on the CDC website <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/interim-guidance-specimen-collection-submission-patients-suspected-infection-ebola.html>.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- CDC Algorithm for Evaluation of the Returned Traveler
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ebola-algorithm.pdf>
- CDC Checklist for Patients Being Evaluated for Ebola in the US
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/checklist-patients-evaluated-us-evd.pdf>

- CDC Ebola Information for Clinicians in US Healthcare Settings
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/clinician-information-us-healthcare-settings.html>
- CDC Ebola Page: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/>
- CDC ED Screening Criteria: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/evd-screening-criteria-hospitals.pdf>
- CDC Infection Control Recommendations: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/infection-prevention-and-control-recommendations.html>
- CDC Health Alert Network: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/index.asp>
- CDC Info for the Public: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/what-need-to-know-ebola.pdf>
- CDPH Ebola Page: <http://cdph.ca.gov/programs/cder/Pages/Ebola.aspx>