Ebola Preparedness for California Frontline Healthcare Facilities: Identify, Isolate and Inform

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Objectives

- Discuss the current Ebola outbreak status in Uganda, returning traveler monitoring, and criteria for a person under investigation (PUI)
- Understand expectations for frontline healthcare facilities to identify, isolate and inform their local health department regarding patients with symptoms and potential exposure to Ebola
- Describe real-world implementation strategies for screening and PUI identification
- Discuss Ebola treatment capacity at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center Special Pathogens Program



Ebola Outbreak Due to Sudan Virus in Uganda

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November 10, 2022



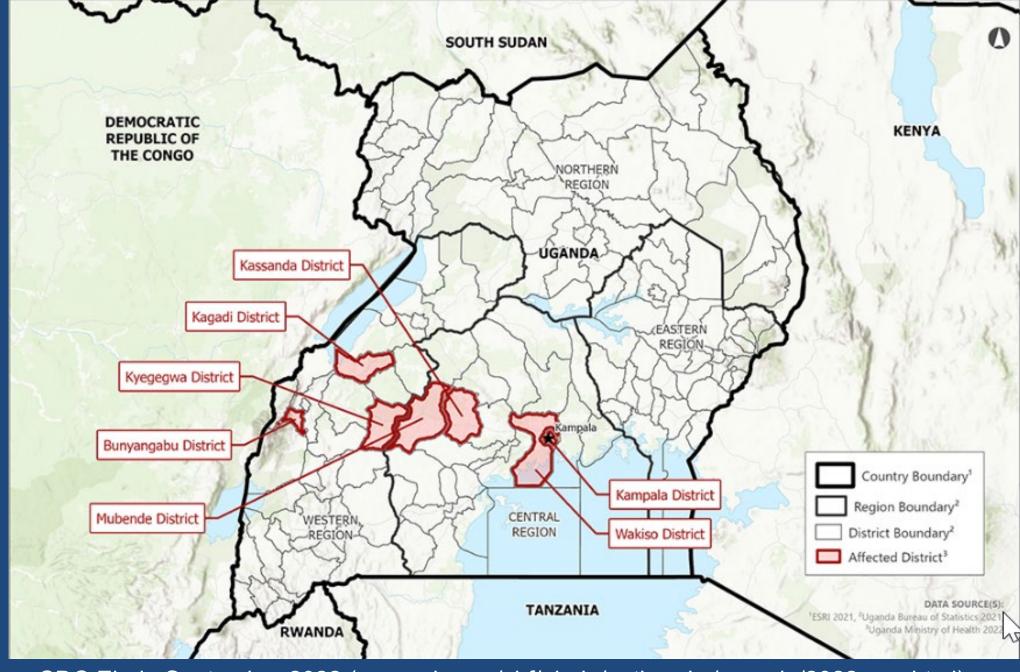


Uganda Outbreak

- Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak due to Sudan virus (species Sudan ebolavirus)
- September 20, 2022, Uganda declared an outbreak of EVD in Mubende district in Central Uganda
- As of November 7, 2022, a total of 135 confirmed cases and 53 confirmed deaths have been identified.
- No cases have been reported in the United States







CDC Ebola September 2022 (www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/uganda/2022-sep.html)

Sudan Virus (Sudan ebolavirus)

- One of four species of Ebola viruses that affect humans
 - Ebola virus (species Zaire ebolavirus)
 - Sudan virus (species Sudan ebolavirus)
 - Taï Forest virus (species Taï Forest ebolavirus)
 - Bundibugyo virus (species Bundibugyo ebolavirus)
- 7 previous outbreaks in Sudan and Uganda last one was in Uganda in 2012
- Approximately 50% mortality rate
- No approved vaccines or therapeutics. Mainstay of treatment is early supportive care.





Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)

- Incubation period: 2-21 days
- Symptoms:
 - Fever
 - Severe headache
 - Muscle pain
 - Weakness
 - Fatigue
 - GI complaints vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain
 - Unexplained bleeding
- Fever and bleeding are not universally present





INFECTION **INCUBATION PERIOD DRY PHASE WET PHASE** · The patient becomes Infection occurs after It can last from 2-21 Common signs and Common signs and more contagious as the exposure to a person days (usually 4-17 symptoms are symptoms are disease progresses. who is sick or has died of Diarrhea days) Fever In fatal cases, death Ebola. · Person feels well and **Fatigue** Nausea/vomiting occurs on average 7 to has no symptoms Headache Bleeding occurs in 10 days after the onset Joint pain The person cannot some cases of symptoms. transmit the virus Muscle pain **Hiccups** · The amount of Ebola Back pain Eye redness virus is highest at the Sore throat time of death. NOT **EVEN MORE** • • THE MOST CONTAGIOUS CONTAGIOUS CONTAGIOUS **CONTAGIOUS** DAY 0 DAY 4 **DAY 7-10 EXPOSURE TO** OF THE DISEASE OF THE DISEASE OF THE DISEASE THE VIRUS 24

CDC COCA Update on 2022 Ebola Outbreak in Uganda (PDF) (emergency.cdc.gov/coca/ppt/2022/101222_slides.pdf)

EVD Transmission

- Direct contact (such as through broken skin or mucous membranes in the eyes, nose, or mouth) with:
 - Blood or body fluids (urine, saliva, sweat, feces, vomit, breast milk, amniotic fluid, and semen) of a person who is sick with or has died from EVD
 - Objects (clothes, bedding, needles, and medical equipment) contaminated with body fluids from a person with EVD
 - Semen from a man who recovered from EVD (through oral, vaginal, or anal sex)
- A person transmits EVD after becoming symptomatic

CDC Ebola Transmission (www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/transmission/index.html)





EVD Diagnostic Testing

- Presumptive testing for EVD due to Sudan ebolavirus can be performed using the <u>BioFire FilmArray NGDS Warrior Panel</u> (www.biofiredefense.com/products/biofire-filmarray-biosurveillance-system/).
- California laboratories currently using the BioFire Warrior Panel: CDPH Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory, Los Angeles County Public Health Laboratory, Santa Clara County Public Health Laboratory, and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.
- Confirmatory testing for presumptive positive samples must be performed at the CDC.
- The decision to test for EVD must be made in conjunction with the LHD, CDPH, and CDC's Viral Special Pathogens Branch (VSPB).





EVD Diagnostic Testing

- A negative RT-PCR test result from a blood specimen collected less than 72 hours after onset of symptoms does not rule out Ebola virus infection
- A negative RT-PCR test result from a blood specimen collected from a symptomatic patient more than 72 hours after symptom onset rules out EVD

2022 CDC Update on Ebola Outbreak in Uganda (PDF) (emergency.cdc.gov/coca/ppt/2022/101222_slides.pdf)





Monitoring of Travelers Returning from Uganda

- On October 11, 2022, CDC and Department of Homeland Security implemented funneling of air passengers traveling to the U.S. who had been to Uganda.
- Passengers will fly into: Atlanta (ATL), Chicago (ORD), Newark (EWR), New York (JFK) and Washington DC (IAD).
- CDC will release lists of travelers to the state of residence daily.
 - CDPH will notify involved LHD of travelers to their jurisdiction
- LHDs will contact returned travelers within 48 hours of notification and evaluate risk for EVD
 - CDPH will work with LHDs to provide guidance on risk assessments, monitoring, and follow-up





Summary of Post-arrival Management Recommendations for Asymptomatic Travelers by Exposure Category

Intervention	Reported High-risk Exposure	Present in Designated Outbreak Area	Present in Outbreak Country but not Designated Outbreak Area
Initial Risk Assessment	Yes	Yes	Yes
Health education	Yes	Yes	Yes
Symptom monitoring	Daily	At least twice weekly until 21 days after departure from Uganda	At least weekly until 21 days after departure from Uganda
Movement restrictions	Quarantine	None	None
Travel	Not permitted	Advance notification to health department and coordination with destination health department	Advance notification to health department and coordination with destination health department

Examples of high-risk exposures:

- Direct contact with an EVD patient (e.g., household)
- Providing
 healthcare to
 an EVD patient
 without using
 appropriate
 PPE

CDC Interim Guidance on Risk Assessment and Management of Persons with Potential Ebola Virus Exposure (www.cdc.gov/quarantine/interim-guidance-risk-assessment-ebola.html)

Returned Travelers

- Self-monitor for fever and other symptoms of EVD for 21 days after leaving affected areas in Uganda
- Notify local health department (LHD) immediately if symptoms develop
- Contact doctor or other healthcare provider by phone and inform them about the recent travel and symptoms before going to the clinic, urgent care, or emergency department





Role of CDPH

- Remind hospitals and LHDs to:
 - Ask all patients about recent travel
- Inform and provide guidance
- Work with LHDs and hospitals to:
 - Determine if a person is at risk for EVD, who would then be considered a person under investigation (PUI)
 - If a PUI, then:
 - Help facilitate Ebola virus testing
 - Provide infection control guidance
 - Help coordinate movement to a different hospital if needed
 - Coordinate and consult with CDC as needed
 - Provide additional infection control and waste management guidance as needed

ommunicable Disease Control

CDPH Ebola Virus Disease

(www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/EbolaVirusDisease.aspx)





CDC Healthcare Ebola Preparedness Framework

Frontline facilities:

acute care hospitals, critical access hospitals, other emergency care settings such as urgent care clinics



Frontline Healthcare Facility



Quickly identifies and isolates patients with possible Ebola



Notifies facility infection control and state and local public health officials



Has enough Ebola personal protective equipment (PPE) for at least 12-24 hours of care

transfer, if needed



Ebola **Assessment Hospital**



Safely receives and isolates a patient with possible Ebola



Provides immediate laboratory evaluation and coordinates Ebola



Cares for a patient for up to 96 hours (including evaluation and management of alternative diagnoses) until Ebola diagnosis is confirmed or ruled out



Has enough Ebola PPE for up to 96 hours

Prepares for patient

Transfers a patient with confirmed Ebola to an Ebola treatment center in consultation with public health officials



Ebola **Treatment Center**



Safely receives and isolates a patient with confirmed Ebola



Cares for patients with Ebola for duration of illness



Has enough Ebola PPE for at least 7 days of care (will restock as needed)



Has sustainable staffing plan to manage several weeks of care



CDC experts are ready to deploy to provide assistance as needed



Expectations for All California Frontline Healthcare Facilities

- All Frontline facilities should be able to:
 - Rapidly identify and triage a person with relevant Ebola exposure history and signs or symptoms
 - Immediately isolate, and take appropriate steps to protect staff caring for the patient
 - Immediately **inform** the facility infection control program and other relevant staff, the local health department, and Licensing and Certification District Office (if applicable)
 - If public health determines a patient is not a PUI and not being tested for Ebola, test, manage, and treat etiologies of febrile illness (malaria, COVID, influenza, etc) as clinically indicated
- Coordinate with local and state public health departments
 - Transfer PUI to an Ebola Assessment Hospital (EAH) or Ebola Treatment Center (ETC) as soon as possible (12-24 hours)



Frontline healthcare facilities should <u>prepare now</u> to identify, isolate and inform their LHD regarding an Ebola PUI

- Develop or re-establish Ebola-specific policies and procedures
 - Roles and points of contact within the facility and with the LHD
- Implement routine <u>triage screening</u> (www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/clinicians/evaluating-patients/index.html)
 for international travel for patients presenting with potentially infectious symptoms
- Select and standardize the personal protective equipment (PPE) ensemble(s) the facility will use for an Ebola PUI in accordance with <u>CDPH PPE guidance</u> (www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/EbolaHealthProfessionals.aspx)
 - Ensure enough appropriate PPE supplies to care for PUI while awaiting transfer
- Identify, train small group of volunteer staff ahead of time who will care for a PUI
 - Provide repeated training and practice, especially for doffing PPE
- Conduct drills/exercises to review and practice procedures and identify potential gaps in readiness



Preparing for Ebola:

Identify, Isolate, and Inform for Frontline Facilities
Region 9 Special Pathogens Treatment Center Capabilities

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cedars-sinai.org

Overview

- Introduction and the role of frontline healthcare facilities
- Guidance on management of an Ebola person under investigation (PUI)
 - Identify, Isolate, Inform
 - Waste Management
 - Specimen Collection
 - Practical tips
- Cedars-Sinai Special Pathogen Capabilities and Preparedness



Introduction

While the risk of a symptomatic Ebola patient presenting to a frontline hospital is currently very low, the impact of a single case is high, and **preparation is critical**

Focus your initial preparations on the most likely scenario

The vast majority of returned travelers will not have Ebola, and patients without Ebola symptoms are not a risk to healthcare workers

"Identify, Isolate, and Inform" is intended to promptly identify patients that may meet criteria for Ebola testing as a "person under investigation" (PUI)

Establishing if someone is a "PUI" will require obtaining a detailed history of their travel, exposures, symptoms, and a discussion with public health

Don't forget about the patient ("do no harm")

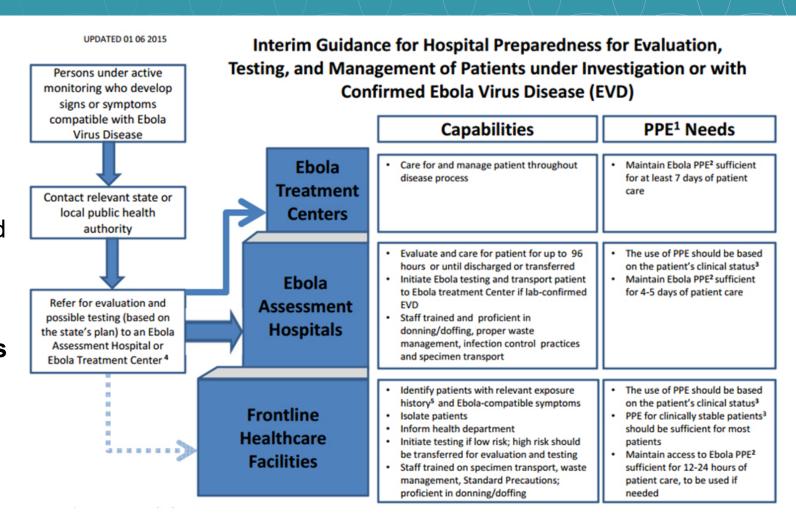


Frontline Healthcare Facility Capabilities

Treatment centers remain prepared to care for a patient through the course of their illness

Assessment hospitals should care for a patient while test results are pending

Frontline healthcare facilities should Identify, Isolate, and Inform. May need to initiate testing in low-risk PUI





Identify, Isolate & Inform

Should we be screening all patients?



- Know your points of entry.
- Post signage for self-identification.
- Screen all patients.
- Ask about symptoms then travel history.



Isolate

- If screened positive, ask individual to don a mask.
- Place in private room, or a private area if a room is not available.
- Limit contact with other patients, visitors, and healthcare workers.
- Don appropriate PPE to care for the patient.



- Inform the patient of the process.
- Notify appropriate leadership in the unit and organization.
- Inform Public Health Officials through the appropriate channels.

https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ed-algorithm-management-patients-possible-ebola.PDF

Identify

While returned travelers from Uganda are being monitored by local health departments, this process may not be perfect

Anyone with symptoms of acute infection should be screened for recent travel

Both symptoms AND an epidemiologic risk factor are required to be considered a PUI

Details are important! Information that will be helpful to confirm PUI criteria may include:

- Exact travel locations/cities and dates
- Exposure to sick contacts or animals
- Attendance at funerals

Case Definitions

Early recognition of Ebola is critical for infection control. Individuals can be classified as *Persons Under Investigation (PUI)* or *Confirmed Cases*.

Persons Under Investigation (PUI)

Individuals can be classified as a PUI if they have

1. Signs and symptoms consistent with Ebola virus infection.

AND

2. An epidemiological risk factor within 21 days before the onset of symptoms.

Confirmed Case

Laboratory-confirmed diagnostic evidence of Ebola virus infection.



Isolate

Where will they be isolated?

- Private room (with private bathroom or commode) with door closed
- Consider phone or tablet for communication (e.g., for obtaining a detailed history and review of symptoms)
- Appropriate signage indicating PPE required
- Designate a clean area for donning PPE outside the room
- Designate a separate doffing area
- Segregate waste until diagnosis is established

PPE Guidance for Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers

(repository.netecweb.org/items/show/1693)

Space Recommendations for PPE Donning/Doffing

(repository.netecweb.org/items/show/1708)







Isolate – Personal Protective Equipment for California

Stable PUI (no bleeding, vomiting, diarrhea, or need for invasive or aerosolizing procedures)





Face shield (not goggles)

N95 Respirator



Keep hair enclosed

Fluid-Resistant Isolation Gown





Two Pairs of Gloves (outer pair with extended cuffs)

Boots or coverings of feet and lower legs

PUI with bleeding, vomiting, diarrhea, or need for invasive or aerosolizing procedures





PAPR with hood extending to shoulders

Fluid-Impermeable Coverall with integrated feet covering

Blood and viral penetration resistance: Gown = ANSI/AAMI PB70 Level 4 Coverall = ASTM F1671 or EN14126

Consider Apron





Two Pairs of Gloves (outer pair with extended cuffs)

Boots or coverings of feet and lower legs



Inform

Inform the patient about the situation

Inform key stakeholders (internal and external)

- Infection Prevention
- Local Health Department
- State Health Department (via LHD)
- Pre-Hospital Providers (as necessary)

Use Isolation Signage

- Restrict access to essential personnel only
- Maintain a log of all people entering the room













Inform – The Role of Public Health

Follow your chain of command

Public Health will help in decisions about designating someone a PUI and testing

Detailed travel history with dates, cities, and activities is essential in determining if a patient is a PUI

You are not alone! The decision to test and/or transfer a patient should be made in conjunction with Public Health





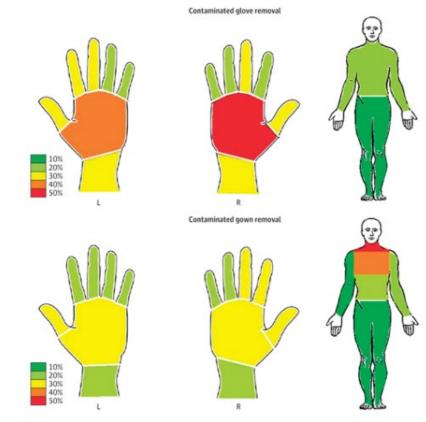
Role of the Trained Observer

Healthcare workers are at risk of self-contamination when removing contaminated PPE

The **Trained Observer (TO)** guides health care providers (using a checklist) as they don and doff PPE to ensure their safety and prevent self-contamination during PPE doffing. The TO does not provide direct patient care.

An effective TO:

- is vigilant in spotting defects in equipment;
- is proactive in identifying upcoming risks;
- uses a checklist, but also focuses on the big picture;
- is informative, supportive and well-paced in issuing instructions or advice;
- always practices hand hygiene immediately after providing assistance.



Sites of frequent self-contamination while doffing PPE



Waste Management

Waste contaminated (or suspected to be contaminated) with Ebola virus is a **Category A infectious substance** regulated as a hazardous material under the US DOT Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR, Parts 171-180) until it has been inactivated (i.e., through autoclave or incineration)

Frontline facilities should **develop a plan to securely sequester waste** until the patient diagnosis can be established

 In the unlikely event the patient is confirmed to have Ebola, a plan to transport the waste via a commercial waste vendor with Category A Waste permits for off-site inactivation

Other key points:

- Do not overfill waste containers
- Double bag waste in biohazardous bags
- Do not "burp" bags or handle in a way that may aerosolize the contents
- Secure in a way that ensures contents remain contained and segregated from other facility biohazardous waste









Liquid Waste Management

Plan for stable PUIs needing a commode and/or a urinal.

Options for liquid waste disposal include:

- Using a solidifier
- Chemical inactivation prior to flush (use appropriate dwell time)

Considerations for liquid waste disposal

- Will your waste vendor accept solidified liquid waste?
- Chemical disinfection and use of sewer system should be reviewed by local sanitation department AND your internal facilities department







Specimen Testing

Additional precautions may be required for lab personnel and equipment involved in the testing of specimens from PUI for Ebola

Perform a laboratory risk assessment to determine what testing can be performed, and **consider using point-of-care instruments** that can be dedicated to the patient's room

Considerations include:

- How will POC results be uploaded into the EMR?
- Training and maintenance of POC equipment
- Are personnel trained on POC instruments also trained in proper PPE donning and doffing?
- Do you have the ability to test for alternate diagnoses (i.e. malaria, influenza, COVID-19)?
- How will lab equipment be disinfected?
- How will you manage lab waste?





Specimen Transport - Category A

Specimens collected for Ebola diagnosis must be transported using Category A precautions (i.e., appropriate packaging, transport containers, and courier)

For specimen collection: Clarify the specific tubes required with public health and gather all necessary supplies prior to entering the room

Butterfly needles are not recommended; do not take cardboard shipping boxes into the room

What are the shipping considerations?

- Category A
 - Category A infectious substance affecting humans (UN 2814)
- Personnel must be trained & certified to ship Category A specimens
 - Online trainings available
 - Check with your facility or State Public Health Department
- Identify couriers
 - Courier's may have different requirements
 - Ground courier vs air courier
- Do you have the correct shipping supplies?
 - Category A box for required shipping condition & appropriate labels
 - Appropriate packaging material
- What days can you ship?
 - · Is your courier available 7 days a week?
 - Is your testing facility available 7 days a week?



Preparing for Ebola: Practical Advice

Plan for the **most likely** scenario first

Mystery Patient Drills are an effective way to reinforce Identify, Isolate, and Inform

Prepare an "Activation Kit" for likely points of entry

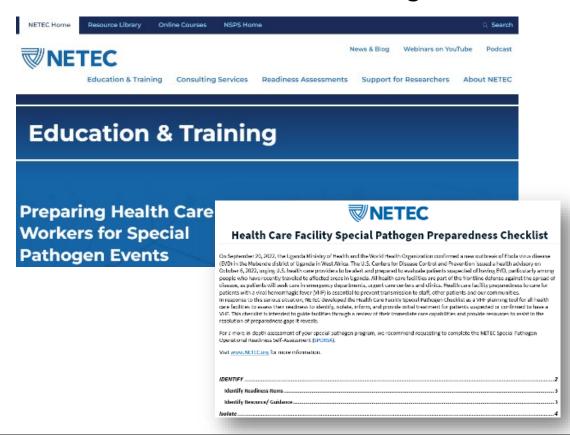
Involve **Educators and Infection Preventionists** in developing protocols

Involve leadership early and often

Use Trained Observers

Ensure disinfectants are listed on EPA List L

Checklists, training tools, and exercise templates are available at **NETEC.org**





Resources

CAL/OSHA

• Interim Guidance on Ebola Virus (PDF) (www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/documents/Cal-OSHA-Guidance-on-Ebola-Virus-for-Hospitals.pdf)

CDC

- Ebola Donning and Doffing (www.medscape.com/viewarticle/833907#vp_2)
- <u>Ebola Virus Disease</u> (www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/index.html)
- Waste Management (www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/clinicians/cleaning/waste-management.html)
- <u>Category A Waste</u> (www.phmsa.dot.gov/transporting-infectious-substances/transporting-infectious-substances-overview)

CDPH

- <u>Ebola Guidance Interim Guidance on Personal Protective Equipment (PDF)</u>
 (www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/PPEGuidanceforEVD.pdf)
- <u>Ebola Virus Disease Ebola Virus Disease</u> (www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/EbolaVirusDisease.aspx)

EPA

Approved Disinfectants (www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-l-disinfectants-use-against-ebola-virus)

NETEC NETEC.org

- <u>Doffing Considerations</u> (repository.netecweb.org/search?query=doffing)
- How Frontline Health Care Workers Can Prepare for an Ebola Outbreak (repository.netecweb.org/items/show/1720)
- Preparing Frontline Health Care Workers for Ebola (www.youtube.com/watch?v=Okh_Sa9cVa4)



Tools & Exercises

CDC

<u>PPE Calculator and Healthcare Team Roles</u> (www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/ppe/calculator.html)

DASH

<u>Estimate PPE Needs</u> (dashtool.org/)

NETEC

- <u>Exercise Templates</u> (repository.netecweb.org/exhibits/show/exercise-templates/exercises)
- Health Care Facility Special Pathogen Preparedness Checklist (repository.netecweb.org/items/show/1724)
- Hospital Readiness Assessment (netec.org/readiness-assessments/hospital-assessment-areas/)



Special Pathogen Preparedness at Cedars-Sinai



Cedars Sinai Medical Center - Los Angeles, California

- •889-bed tertiary care, academic, community not-for-profit medical center
- Approximately 14,000 full-time employees and >500 residents/fellows
- Magnet Excellence in Nursing designation





Regional Special Pathogens Treatment Center

Key Responsibilities:

- Be prepared to receive a patient within 8 hrs
- Capacity to care for 2 simultaneous patients
- Maintain a trained response team
- Maintain adequate PPE supplies
- Capacity to handle a high volume of infectious waste (onsite autoclave)
- Volunteer multi-disciplinary team
- Quarterly training and exercises







Regional Treatment Centers

- 1: Massachusetts General Hospital
- 2: NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue
- 3: Johns Hopkins Hospital
- Emory University Hospital and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta – Egleston Hospital
- 5. University of Minnesota Medical Center
- 6: University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
- 7: University of Nebraska Medical Center
- 8: Denver Health Medical Center
- 9: Cedars-Sinai
- Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center and Children's Hospital



Potential Ways the CS Special Pathogen Team Can Activate

Cedars-Sinai may be asked to admit a **confirmed or high- risk suspect** ("person-under-investigation") special pathogen
patient through:

- Federal partners (DHHS/ASPR)
 - Patient within Region IX (CA, AZ, NV, Pacific)
 - Patient outside of Region IX
 - Repatriated US citizen (e.g., HCW responding to a special pathogen outbreak)
- State or local health department
 - E.g., return traveler being monitored
- Unannounced patient arriving to Cedars-Sinai
 - Emergency Department
 - Other point-of-entry

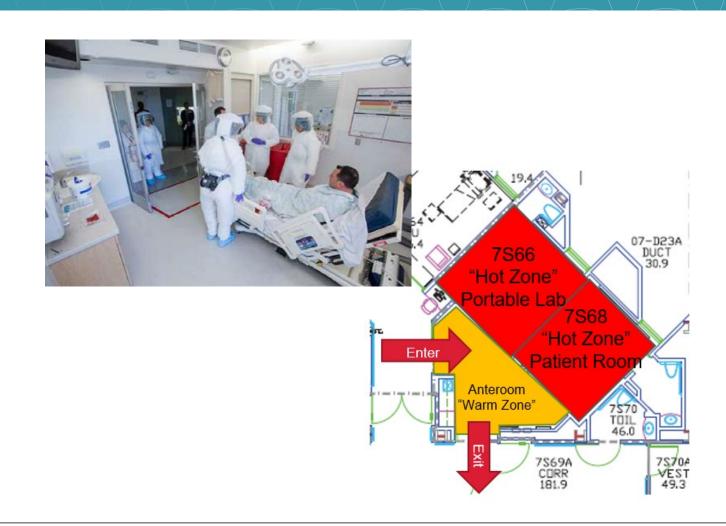
Ground transport via LA County "high risk ambulance" to a dedicated ambulance bay





Treatment Unit

- One-patient activation requires 2 ICU rooms; two patients requires 3 rooms
- Dedicated path of travel from the ambulance bay to the unit
- Dedicated point-of-care lab set up in adjacent room
- Doffing occurs within large anteroom
- Privacy barriers



Treatment & Patient Care

Response Team composed of members with a variety of skill sets

- Team members undergo initial training followed by quarterly refresher training using the Sim Lab
- MDs include intensivists, pediatrician, proceduralist, and infectious disease specialists
- RNs include ED, ICU, Pediatric ICU, Med/Surg, dialysis
- Frequently drill to intubation, central line placement, and other procedures

Urgent surgical interventions would be done in patient room

Would not perform ECMO or chest compressions on a confirmed EVD patient

 All other procedures would be considered on a case-bycase basis









Laboratory Testing Capacity

All testing is performed with a biosafety cabinet using point-of-care equipment set-up in an adjacent patient room

Testing menu and Epic order set restricted to Special Pathogens team members

Lab members trained in Category A specimen packaging

Exercises performed with local public health



Piccolo Express

Chemistries, Liver function, Amylase

iSTAT

- Chemistries and Glucose
- Hg/Hct and blood gases

POCCHI

Hematology / CBC

Hemochron Signature Elite (PT, INR)

Urinalysis: Dipstick and pregnancy

Diagnostics:

- Cepheid (Ebola Zaire)
- Biofire Warrior Panel (includes targets for Ebola spp.)
- Biofire Sentinel Surveillance Panel
- Biofire (bloodstream and GI pathogens)
- Biofire Respiratory (RP2.1) including SARS-CoV-2 and Influenza
- Alere BionaxNOW (Malaria)



Frequent Exercises









Situation Report Resources





<u>ProMed International Society for Infectious Diseases</u> (promedmail.org/)



- CIDRAP Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (www.cidrap.umn.edu/)
- <u>STAT News</u> (statnews.com)

Weekly bulletins from WHO Afro updated weekly:

WHO Africa Outbreaks and Emergencies Bulletin
 (www.afro.who.int/health-topics/disease-outbreaks/outbreaks-and-other-emergencies-updates)

Monthly updates from the UK Health Security Agency

GOV.UK (www.gov.uk/government/publications/high-consequence-infectious-diseases-monthly-summaries)

Weekly updates from the Nigerian CDC Disease Situation Reports

 Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention NCDC (ncdc.gov.ng/diseases/sitreps)



















Veck 16: 11 – 17 April 2022 lata as reported by: 17:00; 17 April 2022





Thank you

