



Instructions for Initial Assessment and Isolation of Patients at Risk for Ebola Viral Disease (EVD)

Common EVD Signs/Symptoms:

- Fever (>101.5°F)
- Headache
- Joint and muscle aches
- Weakness
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

Some patients may also experience:

- Bleeding inside and outside of the body
- Rash
- Red eyes
- Hiccups, Cough
- Sore throat
- Chest pain

Initial Assessment and Isolation:

1. Patient presents with symptoms noted above (including fever >101.5°F)
2. Immediately ask about **high risk exposures** in the past 21 days:
 - a. Travel to one of these 4 countries with a current outbreak: Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone
 - b. Direct contact with a patient known to have the Ebola (including providing patient care or having contact with blood or body fluids from an infected patient)
 - c. Handling animals or animal-related specimens of any type from the affected countries
3. If symptoms are present **but NO high risk exposure in the past 21 days**, please proceed with routine assessment and evaluation for more typical infectious disease using routine infection control guidelines
4. If symptoms are present **AND high risk exposure in the past 21 days exists**, please proceed as noted below:
 - a. Immediately place a surgical mask on the patient and yourself
 - b. Immediately escort the patient out of the public space to any private room or a negative air-flow room if one is readily available.
 - c. Institute contact, droplet, and airborne precautions
 - d. Limit the number of people entering the room.
 - e. Anyone entering the room where the patient is isolated should:
 - i. Mask with an N95 mask (if available) or surgical mask
 - ii. Use mask with face shield or use goggles
 - iii. Gown (all OSU isolation gowns are fluid resistant) and
 - iv. Gloves
 - f. Notify the appropriate on-site physician immediately
 - g. The on-site physician will evaluate the patient to determine if the patient meets criteria for EVD
 - h. **If the physician feels that the patient meets the criteria above, please call the OSUWMC Critical Event Officer immediately (pager 9876).**
 - i. The Critical Event Officer will notify Epidemiology/Infectious Diseases
 - ii. The Medical Center will also ensure that Columbus Communicable Disease Reporting Service (CDRS) will be notified
 - i. After additional details of the case are reviewed with the physician on site:
 - i. Decisions will be made about transportation of the patient to OSUWMC if the patient presents to a non-Emergency Department site
 - ii. Decisions on diagnostic testing will be made in consultation with Columbus Public Health, Ohio Department of Health and/or the CDC as appropriate.
 - iii. Direction will be given to the on-site individuals regarding cleaning the room and any equipment used in the care of the patient