Interim Guidance for Hospital Preparedness for Evaluation, Testing, and Management of Patients with Possible or Confirmed Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)

Persons under active monitoring who develop signs or symptoms compatible with Ebola Virus Disease

Contact relevant state or local public health authority

Refer for evaluation and possible testing (based on the state’s plan) to an Ebola Assessment Hospital or Ebola Treatment Center

Ebola Treatment Centers

Ebola Assessment Hospitals

Frontline Healthcare Facilities

Capabilities

• Care for and manage patient throughout disease process
• Evaluate and care for patient for up to 96 hours or until discharged or transferred
• Initiate Ebola testing and transport patient to Ebola treatment Center if lab-confirmed EVD
• Staff trained and proficient in donning/doffing, proper waste management, infection control practices and specimen transport
• Identify patients with relevant exposure history and Ebola-compatible symptoms
• Isolate patients
• Inform health department
• Initiate testing if low risk; high risk should be transferred for evaluation and testing
• Staff trained on specimen transport, waste management, Standard Precautions; proficient in donning/doffing

PPE Needs

• Maintain Ebola PPE\(^2\) sufficient for at least 7 days of patient care
• The use of PPE should be based on the patient’s clinical status\(^3\)
• Maintain Ebola PPE\(^2\) sufficient for 4-5 days of patient care
• The use of PPE should be based on the patient’s clinical status\(^3\)
• PPE for clinically stable patients\(^3\) should be sufficient for most patients
• Maintain access to Ebola PPE\(^2\) sufficient for 12-24 hours of patient care, to be used if needed

1. Personal protective equipment (PPE)
2. See [http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/procedures-for-ppe.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/procedures-for-ppe.html) for information on recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) for all healthcare workers entering the room of a patient hospitalized with Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). All staff who may be required to use Ebola PPE should be trained for their roles and demonstrate proficiency in putting on (donning) and taking off (doffing) of PPE.
4. Patients should be preferentially referred to an Assessment Hospital for testing and evaluation. If severely ill and/or high clinical suspicion of EVD referral to an Ebola Treatment Center could be considered, based on the state’s plan. Confirmed EVD patients should be transferred to an Ebola Treatment Center. Rarely, patients may be temporarily referred to Frontline Healthcare Facilities when it is not feasible to refer to an Assessment Hospital or Treatment Center (e.g. based on distance, bed availability, or other considerations). In some cases, a hospital may be prepared to serve in more than one role.
5. Patient has lived in or traveled to a country with widespread Ebola transmission or a country that has had cases in urban settings with uncertain control measures or had contact with an individual with confirmed EVD within the previous 21 days [http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/exposure/risk-factors-when-evaluating-person-for-exposure.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/exposure/risk-factors-when-evaluating-person-for-exposure.html).