

Bloodborne Pathogens Key Topic for 2016

Ebola – UAB Protocols and Procedures

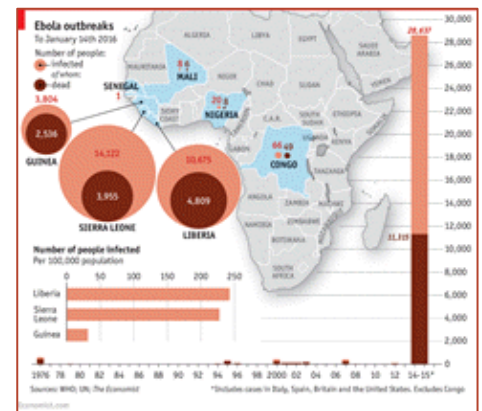
In 2016, the Occupation Health & Safety (OH&S) Bloodborne Pathogens course focused Ebola – UAB Protocols and Procedures. The information covers:

1. Knowing when to enact the proper Ebola Protocols and Procedures when needed
2. Determining the risk involved when working with potential Ebola exposure/patients
3. Utilizing the appropriate work practice controls and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to ensure safety at the highest level when working with potential Ebola exposure/patients

Background Information

In 2016, according to World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), those employees in the healthcare profession that traveled to any country in West Africa could have been exposed to the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD).

The UAB Employee Health Department (EHD) has the task of observing any employee that has traveled to where EVD was found present (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, or Mali). These employees should go the EHD office for observation until the EVD incubation period is over.



- [Internal Travel Guidelines for UAB, UABHS, HSF, CEFH, and OSF Employees](#)
- [UAB-Related International Travel Policy](#)

Definitions You Need to Know

- Self-Monitoring** Relying solely on the individual to monitor and report symptoms if they develop
- Active Monitoring** Daily reporting of measured temperatures and symptoms consistent with Ebola
- Isolation** The separation of an individual or group who is reasonably believed to be infected with a quarantinable communicable disease from those who are not infected to prevent spread of disease

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Quarantine

Separation of an individual or group who have been in close contacts of patients with a communicable disease, but do not have, or do not show signs/symptoms of said disease. The primary objective is to prevent the spread of disease.

Prevention

UAB Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Management Plan

The following are necessary steps to follow to prevent the spread of EVD if such a case were to present to the UAB HealthCare System:

1. Healthcare providers should be alert for and evaluate suspected patients for EVD using the following criteria:
 - a. Epidemiologic risk factors within the past three weeks before the onset of symptoms
 - i. Travel to or residence in an area where EVD transmission is active (**Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Mali**) **OR**
 - ii. Contact with blood or other body fluids of a patient known to have or suspected to have EVD **AND**
 - b. Clinical criteria (any one of the following symptoms):

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Fever (>38.0°C or >100.4°F) | • Vomiting |
| • Headache | • Diarrhea |
| • Weakness | • Abdominal Pain |
| • Muscle Pain | • Unexplained Hemorrhage |
2. Contact Infection Prevention immediately – **Bernard C. Camins, MD**, Healthcare Epidemiologists (**UAB pager #7428**)
3. Infection Prevention will notify the relevant health departments **IMMEDIATELY** based on CDC guidelines and ADPH requirements.

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- a. State regulations require notification of the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) within 4 hours of presentation.
 - b. Call the **ADPH** at **1-800-338-8374** or the **Jefferson County Health Department** at **(205) 933-9110**.
4. All suspected cases will be housed in the UAB Hospital Main ER (resuscitation Bay) until diagnostic testing is obtained. We have developed a screening tool for Hospital, TKC, and Clinic use.
- a. If a patient presents at TKC or an outlying clinic and the screening tool identifies the patient as at risk for EVD, coordination with the main hospital (Infection Prevention) is required before transferring the patient to the central ER.
 - b. CDC recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) is available at UAB Hospital to care for a suspected or confirmed EVD patients. We recommend that to evaluate these patients, use **STANDARD + CONTACT + RESPIRATORY** precautions.

Work Practice Controls

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn when working in an area where EVD is present. There are specific steps to donning and doffing the correct PPE when working with or around a suspected Ebola patient/area. The following links show what steps that should be followed:

- [PPE Donning Checklist for a Low Output Ebola Patient](#)
- [Checklist for Doffing PPE for Low-Output Ebola Patient Care](#)
- [PPE Donning Checklist for a High Output Ebola Patient](#)
- [Checklist for Doffing PPE for High-Output Ebola Patient Care](#)

Environmental Disinfection and Cleaning

Environmental Care Services is not required to perform routine cleaning and disinfection while the diagnosis of EVD is being confirmed. The Ebola Care Team will perform routine cleaning and disinfection until the patient is moved from the room.