Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

IPC for Marburg Virus Disease (MVD):

Creating an Isolation Area in Your Facility

Healthcare Settings with Limited to Intermediate Resources

Updated: March 2023

Learning Objectives

After this presentation, participants will be able to

- Explain why isolating suspected Marburg virus disease patients is important

- Describe at least 3 best practices for setting up a short-term isolation area for suspected Marburg virus disease patients

Discuss

Why is it important to keep people who might have Marburg virus disease (MVD) isolated from other patients in a healthcare facility?

Early identification and separation of suspected Marburg virus disease patients prevents bringing unrecognized Marburg virus disease into your healthcare setting.

This protects…

YOU

Your co-workers & patients

Your community

Setting Up an Isolation Area

Isolation

When a suspect Marburg virus disease patient is identified, the patient should be **isolated** to prevent spreading the illness to others.

Every facility should have space identified that can function as isolation until the patient can be transferred to a designated facility for testing and care.

Isolation Area Requirements

- **Separate from other patient care areas, such as:**
  - Separate building
  - Temporary structure/tent
  - Demarcated area (under a tree)

- **Designated for use only as Marburg virus disease isolation**
  - Should not be dual purpose

- **Restricted access**
  - Fencing, taped off, etc.
  - Only healthcare workers should enter isolation (to give oral medicines, etc.)

Isolation Area Design

- **Unidirectional flow**
  - Ideally, separate entrance and exit
  - Dedicated spaces for putting on and removing PPE
  - Separate patient care supplies
- **Appropriate spacing**
  - At least one meter between beds
- **Supplies to hold patients temporarily and safely**
  - Separate toileting options for each patient (e.g., latrine or commode bucket)
  - Hand hygiene stations

Isolation Area Equipment & Supplies

For patients

- Chairs, or bench if no chairs available
- Food and water
- Hand hygiene station
- Separate toilet or latrine

Patient care (IF REQUIRED)

- PPE for healthcare workers
- Hand hygiene stations for healthcare workers
- Designated patient care equipment

Cleaning and disinfection

- 0.5% chlorine solution (for disinfection) or other approved hospital disinfectant*
- Soap and water
- Cleaning equipment (buckets, cloths, mop)

Waste

- Biohazard waste bin (red)
- General waste bin

* Alcohol at 70-90% (ethanol, isopropyl), improved hydrogen peroxide ≥ 0.5%

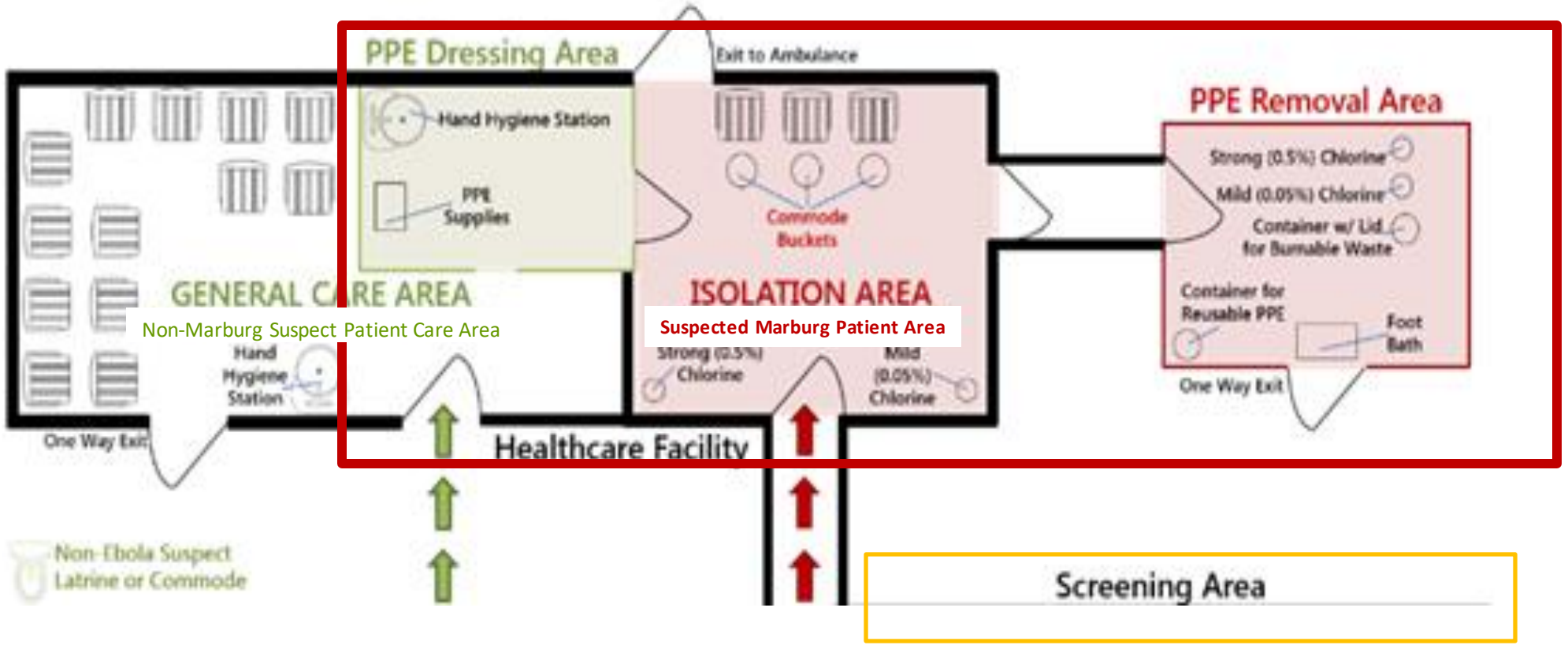
PPE Removal Area Equipment & Supplies

- The PPE removal area should have:
  - Bucket of strong (0.5%) chlorine solution (for non-porous items, such as boots, goggles)
  - Bucket of mild (0.05%) chlorine solution (for porous items, such as cloth gowns)
  - Container with a lid for infectious waste
  - Container for reusable PPE
  - Hand hygiene supplies

Biohazard waste bin (can be yellow or red)

Bucket for dirty, reusable PPE to be reprocessed

Example Facility Setup



Reflection

- How is the isolation area for Marburg virus disease different from other isolation areas you might have had to set up in the past?

- What challenges has your facility had in the past with setting up isolation areas?

- If you have never had to participate in setting up an isolation area, what challenges do you imagine your facility might have?

Key Takeaways

- **Isolation** prevents people sick with Marburg virus disease from spreading the illness to others. **It protects you, your co-workers and patients, and your community.**

- **Every facility should have a separate isolation area** for suspected Marburg virus disease patients until they can be transferred to a designated facility for testing and care.

Thank you!

For more information, contact CDC
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