

# Ebola

The information in this document is no longer current and will not be updated.

# Think EBOLA

Early recognition is critical for infection control



## INITIATE

Think Ebola when you approach a patient. Start the steps for basic infection control before assessing the patient for risks.

- Always use standard precautions
- If there are concerns that the patient could meet the criteria for Ebola, immediately separate the patient from others



## IDENTIFY

Assess your patient for:

- International travel
- OR
- Contact with someone with Ebola within the last 21 days
- AND
- Had a fever at home, or has a current temperature  $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
  - Other symptoms:
    - Severe headache
    - Muscle pain
    - Weakness
    - Fatigue
    - Diarrhea
    - Vomiting
    - Abdominal (stomach) pain
    - Unexplained hemorrhage (bleeding or bruising)
  - If the patient has both exposure and symptoms, immediately isolate the patient and inform others (see INFORM)

## ISOLATE

If assessment indicates possible Ebola virus infection, take action.



- Isolate the patient in a private room with a private bathroom or covered, bedside commode and close the door
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE): <http://go.usa.gov/szgB>
- Limit the healthcare personnel who enter the room
- Keep a log of everyone who enters and leaves the patient's room
- Consider alternative diagnoses, and evaluate appropriately
- Only perform necessary tests and procedures
- Avoid aerosol-generating procedures
- Follow CDC guidelines for cleaning, disinfecting, and managing waste: <http://go.usa.gov/szYA>

## INFORM

Alert others, including public health authorities.

- Notify your facility's infection control program and other appropriate staff
- Contact your state or local public health authorities
- Consult with state or local public health authorities about testing for Ebola
- For a list of state and local health department numbers, visit: <http://go.usa.gov/f74V>



For more information, visit: [www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp)

