

Guide for Clinicians Evaluating an Ill Person for Ebola Disease



Ill person presents to healthcare facility

HEALTHCARE FACILITY

Assess exposure risk[†]

- Has patient been in contact with a person with suspected or confirmed Ebola disease in the past 21 days, or
- Has patient been to an area with an active Ebola outbreak[†] in the past 21 days?

Exposure risk identified

No exposure risk identified

Is patient experiencing fever ($\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}/38.0^{\circ}\text{C}$) without use of antipyretics and any of the following symptoms?

- Aches and pains, such as severe headache and muscle and/or joint pain
- Weakness and fatigue
- Sore throat
- Loss of appetite
- Gastrointestinal symptoms, including abdominal pain, diarrhea, and vomiting
- Unexplained hemorrhaging, bleeding or bruising, including bleeding outside a normal menstrual cycle
- Red eyes, skin rash, and hiccups

The patient is not reporting exposures compatible with Ebola disease. Continue with routine evaluation and care.

If concern remains, consult State, Tribal, Local, or Territorial Public Health Department for additional guidance.

YES

NO

Isolate and Inform[†]

- Isolate patient at a healthcare facility in a single room with private bathroom/covered bedside commode
- Adhere to infection prevention and control procedures to prevent transmission, including wearing appropriate PPE
- Use only essential healthcare workers trained in their designated roles and keep a log of all people entering the patient's room
- Perform only necessary tests and procedures
- Notify facility's IPC program of a suspected Ebola case

- The patient is not reporting signs and symptoms compatible with Ebola disease. Continue with routine evaluation and care.
- If concern remains, consult State, Tribal, Local, or Territorial Public Health Department for additional guidance.

Contact State, Tribal, Local, or Territorial Public Health Department for Testing Recommendations

CONSULTATION

In-depth public health interview to review detailed travel and epidemiologic history and clinical course.

Questions related to risk exposure, like these below, can help inform testing recommendations.

- Have contact with a symptomatic person with suspect or confirmed Ebola disease, or any objects contaminated by their body fluids
- Experience a breach in infection prevention and control precautions that result in the potential for contact with body fluids of a patient with suspect or confirmed Ebola disease
- Contact with semen from a man who has recovered from Ebola disease
- Participated in any of the following activities while in an area with an active Ebola disease outbreak:
 - » Contact with someone who was sick or died, or any objects contaminated by their body fluids
 - » Attend/participate in funeral rituals, including preparation of bodies for funeral/burial
 - » Work in a healthcare facility or laboratory
 - » Visit a healthcare facility or traditional healer
 - » Contact with bats or wild animals
 - » Work or spend time in a mine/cave

As a resource for State, Tribal, Local, or Territorial public health departments, CDC is available 24/7 for consultation 770-488-7100

Decision is made to test for ebolavirus*

- Test for other causes of illness**
- Determine if patient requires transfer to higher tier facility[†]

Decision is made NOT to test for ebolavirus

Sample collected < 72 hours after symptom onset

Sample collected > 72 hours after symptom onset

Positive

Negative

Positive

Negative

Ill patient is still symptomatic, repeat test 72 hours after symptom onset as test may be a false negative if specimen is collected <72 hours after symptom onset. Patient must remain under strict isolation precautions.

Positive

Negative

CONFIRMED EBOLA CASE*

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Follow up clinical consultation recommended to review the patient's clinical status, laboratory test results, and discuss discontinuation of Ebola specific IPC measures

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TESTING ALGORITHM

RESULT

* Positive and negative ebolavirus results received on Biofire Warrior panel are considered presumptive. All ebolavirus laboratory test results must be confirmed by CDC.

** Diagnoses for Consideration in a Returning Traveler with Fever: <https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/abroad/diagnosis-considered-returning-traveler.html>

† Guidance and other resources:

Screening patients: <https://evaluating-patients/index.html>

Risk assessment and management of persons with potential Ebola exposure: <https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/interim-guidance-risk-assessment-ebola.html>

Infection prevention and control recommendations for hospitalized persons with potential Ebola exposure: <https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/clinicians/evd/infection-control.html>

Performing routine diagnostic testing for patients with suspected Ebola disease: <https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/laboratory-personnel/safe-specimen-management.html>

Outbreak updates and affected areas: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks>