



Cattaraugus County Office of Emergency Services

Contact us with questions by calling Robert Kuhn, Cattaraugus County EMS Coordinator, at (716) 938-2244 or (716) 374-3590, or by email to RFKuhn@cattco.org

EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE

Emergency Medical Services Safe Response Resource

Updated 10/20/2014

Cattaraugus County 9-1-1 Center will provide for additional questioning of all calls that may indicate a patient suspected to have Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). If it is determined there is a risk of the patient having EVD, the 9-1-1 dispatcher will notify EMS upon call out to have a member in charge landline the Sheriff's Office for more information. Sheriff's Office/ 9-1-1 Center: (716) 938-9191, then dial 0

What to look for...

Patients would present with one or more of the following general illness/ flu-like symptoms:

- Headache
- Sore Throat
- Weakness
- Joint or Muscle Pain
- Abdominal Pain
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Skin Rash
- Internal or External Bleeding of Non-Traumatic Origin
- Red Eyes

Fever is common, typically above 100.4°F.

Travel may or may not be a good additional indicator. At this time, the major area of concern is West Africa but because of infected persons traveling while symptomatic/ contagious we may also be concerned about those that have traveled on commercial airlines or to other known affected areas in the US, such as Dallas, TX.

Anyone who has traveled to West Africa or had contact with someone who has in the past 30 days is of highest concern.

Personal Protective Equipment

Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) is spread through direct contact with infectious bodily fluids such as blood, vomit, feces, saliva, sweat, etc.

Responders should protect themselves from transmission by completely isolating themselves from a patient's bodily fluids through wearing proper PPE:

- Gloves (2 Pair)
- Eye Protection and N-95 Mask
- Fluid-Resistant Suit with boots & hood

As soon as possible, contact the receiving hospital by cell phone so they may prepare for and give instructions for your arrival.

Decontamination

Full PPE as described above should be worn while decontaminating the ambulance. Commercial cleaning solutions for virus decontamination or a simple bleach solution (1 part chlorine bleach to 10 parts water) maybe used to clean surfaces.

All PPE, clean-up towels, and used disposable equipment should be disposed of at the receiving hospital following their procedures. Olean General Hospital is prepared to aid in your decontamination efforts.

Take steps to minimize exposures...

Whenever you encounter a patient you suspect of having EVD, responders should immediately slow down, take a step back and begin to take steps to protect themselves, fellow responders and health-care workers, and their equipment. Ambulance crew members should be limited to the minimum necessary. Unneeded equipment should be put away in closed compartments to minimize exposures.