

Infection Prevention and Control Measures for Initial Management of Persons Suspected to Have Ebola or Viral Hemorrhagic Fever (VHF)¹

Intended for use in Emergency Departments and Inpatient Care Settings

Always follow Routine Practices including a Point of Care Risk Assessment

Screening, Assessment

Travel History:

within the last 3 weeks (21 days) the person has returned from or resided in areas where Ebola/VHF is active² or endemic

AND

Fever or a history of acute fever

- Triage suspected patients as per Ebola Flow Map document
- Place and restrict patient to a single room with private bathroom or dedicated commode, with door closed
- Initiate appropriate Droplet and Contact Precautions and ensure Droplet/Contact Signage is posted (hand hygiene, gloves, fluid resistant disposable gown, full face shield, surgical or procedure mask)
- Avoid starting routine IVs or drawing blood until I.D. assessment
- Avoid Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures (AGMPs)³
- Assess need for Additional PPE in case of high risk symptoms or high risk procedures (i.e., vomiting, or diarrhea, or bleeding OR AGMPs or procedures where body fluid contamination is likely)
Upgrade PPE as per Risk Assessment tool: N95 Respirator, surgical head cover, impervious gowns, surgical boot covers, double gloving. For medically necessary AGMPs, follow your facility's protocol for Airborne and Contact Precautions.
- Only essential hospital personnel and visitors essential to assist with patient care should enter the room.
- Provide education on hand hygiene and PPE and monitor the correct/consistent use of PPE for all who enter or leave the room

Additional Considerations

- Use an Airborne infection isolation room (AIIR) IF available, or an appropriate space for consistent control over access, PPE donning and removal process and safe management of used supplies and waste.
- Maintain a log book of persons entering the room or having patient contact
- Clean/disinfect environmental surfaces and non-critical reusable equipment according to the manufacturer's instructions with a product that is approved by Infection Control, has a broad spectrum virucide claim and a Drug Identification Number (DIN). Assess need for additional or more frequent cleaning measures when environmental soiling has occurred
- Waste should be contained at point-of-use, using leak-proof waste bags and covered bins.
- Soiled linens should be placed in clearly-labelled leak proof bags at the point-of-use and managed safely as per routine protocols or quarantined safely until diagnosis is confirmed
- Inform other departments (e.g., Laboratory, X-ray, Diagnostic imaging, ICU, bed management), facilities and ambulance dispatch if diagnostic tests are ordered or transfers are planned

1. **Viral hemorrhagic fever (VHF):** Examples of VHF viruses include Ebola Virus Disease, Marburg virus hemorrhagic fevers and Lassa fever.
2. **VHF affected countries:** For updates and travel advisories go to: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/tmp-pmv/pub-eng.php>
Ebola viral disease is endemic in Western, Central and Eastern Africa; areas currently affected by Ebola outbreaks are Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.
Marburg viral disease is endemic in Central and Eastern Africa; outbreaks have occurred in Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe.
Lassa fever is endemic in Western and Central Africa, in particular Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone.
3. **Aerosol Generating Medical Procedure (AGMP):** Intubation and related procedures, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, bronchoscopy, sputum induction, nebulized therapy, non-invasive positive pressure ventilation.