

EBOLA HEMORRHAGIC FEVER

Introduction

You've probably heard about the outbreak of Ebola virus in West Africa. On 09/30/2014, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) confirmed the first travel associated case of Ebola to be diagnosed in the United States. The CDC and partners are taking precautions to prevent the spread of Ebola in the United States.

Ebola Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

What is Ebola?

Ebola virus is the cause of a viral hemorrhagic fever disease. Symptoms include: fever, headache, joint and muscle aches, weakness, diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain, lack of appetite, and abnormal bleeding. Symptoms may appear anywhere from 2 to 21 days after exposure to Ebola virus though 8-10 days is most common.

How is Ebola transmitted?

Ebola is transmitted through direct contact with the blood or bodily fluids of an infected symptomatic person or through exposure to objects (such as needles) that have been contaminated with infected secretions. Ebola is not a respiratory disease like the flu, so it is not transmitted through the air, food or water. You could not catch Ebola from casual contact with someone such as being in the same classroom together, passing someone in a hallway or on campus, in an elevator or on a bus or airplane.

Can I get Ebola from a person who is infected but doesn't have any symptoms?

No. Individuals who are not experiencing symptoms are not contagious. In order for the virus to be transmitted, an individual would have to have direct contact with an individual who is very ill.

What is being done to keep Ebola from entering the U.S.?

Screening procedures are taking place at airports in Africa. Those individuals who have signs and symptoms of Ebola are restricted from flying to the US and are being offered treatment.

Where can I get more information about Ebola?

Please visit the following sites for more information:

[Information from the Centers for Disease Control](#)

[Information from the World Health Organization](#)

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10/6/14