

August 4, 2014

**TO: Healthcare Providers, Hospitals, Local Health Departments, Laboratories and Emergency Medical Service Providers**

**FROM: NYSDOH Bureau of Communicable Disease Control**

**HEALTH ADVISORY:  
EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE (EVD) UPDATE**

**For healthcare facilities, please distribute immediately to the Infection Control Department, Emergency Department, Infectious Disease Department, Director of Nursing, Medical Director, Director of Pharmacy, Laboratory Service, and all patient care areas.**

This message is to clarify and address coordination regarding suspected cases of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), between the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYCDOHMH), Local Health Departments (LHDs), health care facilities, laboratories and emergency medical service (EMS) providers.

**Outside NYC:** When considering EVD in the differential diagnosis of patients who meet criteria set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00364.asp>, providers and facilities who are located outside of NYC (regardless of the jurisdiction of the patient's usual residence), should immediately contact the LHD in the county where the facility/provider is located, to discuss the case and to seek approval for testing at CDC, if appropriate. LHD contact information is available at <http://goo.gl/wfRgjb>. Providers who are unable to reach their LHD can contact the NYSDOH Bureau of Communicable Disease Control at (518) 473-4439 during business hours or the NYSDOH Public Health Duty Officer at 1-866-881-2809 evenings, weekends and holidays. In these situations, NYSDOH's Wadsworth Center will assist with testing logistics between the healthcare facility and the CDC, since testing for EVD can only occur at CDC labs.

**Within NYC:** Providers and facilities located in NYC (regardless of the jurisdiction of the patient's usual residence), should immediately contact the NYCDOHMH at 1-866-692-3641 to discuss the case and to seek approval for testing at CDC, if appropriate. In these situations, the NYCDOHMH Public Health Lab will assist with testing logistics between the healthcare facility and the CDC.

**EMS Providers:** All EMS providers, regardless of jurisdiction of origin, should alert the receiving emergency department of suspected EVD cases as soon as possible, so that appropriate infection control procedures can be put in place in advance.

**CDC Conference Call: What U.S. Hospitals Need to Know to Prepare for Ebola Virus Disease**

NYSDOH is advising clinicians and facilities to avail themselves of an opportunity to participate in CDC's Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) call: "What U.S. Hospitals Need to Know to Prepare for Ebola Virus Disease." Drs. Barbara Knust, and David Kuhar will provide updates on the status of the outbreak in West Africa and guidance on what steps U.S. healthcare facilities can take to prepare for the possibility of caring for a patient with Ebola virus disease.

Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2014 — Tomorrow

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 pm (Eastern Time)

Audio Only: There are no presentation slides and registration is not required.

888-809-8972 (U.S. Callers)

517-319-9299 (International Callers)

Passcode: 1075122

The audio and transcript will be available at <http://goo.gl/P3FL3c> later this week for those who are unable to make tomorrow's presentation.

If you have questions or trouble accessing this COCA Call, please e-mail [coca@cdc.gov](mailto:coca@cdc.gov).