

EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE

Ebola virus disease is severe and often fatal. Symptoms can appear 2-21 days after exposure, but usually within 8-10 days. There is no specific treatment for Ebola other than close monitoring and supportive hospital care. For more information about Ebola, visit cdc.gov/vhf/ebola.

SYMPTOMS

- Fever
- Headache
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Weakness
- Joint and muscle ache
- Stomach pain
- Lack of appetite
- Bleeding
- Similar symptoms to other, more common infections

HOW IS IT SPREAD?

- Direct contact with blood or bodily fluids of an infected person
- Exposure to contaminated objects (e.g. needles)
- Handling bats, rodents, or primates in areas with Ebola
- Individuals without fever cannot spread Ebola

WHO IS AT RISK FOR EBOLA?

Individuals who have **recently been in a country with known Ebola**, and who also have:

- Contact with blood or other bodily fluids of a patient or dead body known to have or suspected to have Ebola, or
- Direct handling of bats, rodents, or primates.

Currently, the risk of acquiring Ebola in Maryland is extremely low. If a case is identified, there are established infection control guidelines to prevent transmission.

WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DOING?

The Maryland Department of Health is monitoring the national and international situation. We frequently communicate with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Our epidemiologists conduct daily disease surveillance. We work with hospitals and health care providers state-wide to quickly investigate reports of possible Ebola infections, as well as distribute guidance and facilitate exercises.

MORE INFORMATION

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