

1 October 2014

To: South Dakota healthcare workers

Yesterday's announcement of the first Ebola disease onset in the United States (Dallas, Texas) compels us to review again healthcare and public health preparedness in South Dakota.

Please review your infection control, including patient isolation protocols for your facility if you should receive an Ebola suspect of case.

CDC's Ebola website is the foremost place for the most recent and authoritative information:

www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/index.html

In particular see the "**Ebola Information for Healthcare Workers**" site at

www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/index.html for guidelines on:

- Screening: www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/evd-screening-criteria.pdf
- Testing and diagnosis: www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ebola-lab-guidance.pdf s
- Specimen transport: www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/interim-guidance-specimen-collection-submission-patients-suspected-infection-ebola.html
- Infection control: www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/infection-prevention-and-control-recommendations.html
- Environmental issues: www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/environmental-infection-control-in-hospitals.html
- First Responders (EMS and public safety): www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/interim-guidance-emergency-medical-services-systems-911-public-safety-answering-points-management-patients-known-suspected-united-states.html
- Several other guidelines are addressed at this site as well.

Please keep abreast of new and changing guidance as more is learned about this emerging disease.

If you have questions please call the SD Dept of Health at 800-592-1861.

LON Kightlinger

State Epidemiologist

South Dakota Department of Health

Travel History

Meditech Nursing Assessment

- ⇒ Nursing Admission Assessments will now include a Travel History.
- ⇒ This will insure patients who may have traveled outside the United States and are at risk of infectious diseases are identified early.
- ⇒ Infectious Disease (ID) physicians are very concerned with identifying patients who may have traveled to Africa or the Arabian Peninsula and now have signs and symptoms of infection suggestive of Ebola or MERS CoV. Sites are to call the infectious disease physician on call when these parameters are met.

Travel History/Infectious Disease Travel Outside of the US in the Last 30 Days: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Comment: _____	
Regions Traveled <input type="checkbox"/> Guinea-Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Liberia-Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Nigeria-Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Sierra Leone-Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Congo-Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Africa - Ebola alert <input type="checkbox"/> Arabian - MERS alert	<input type="checkbox"/> Iran-Arabian <input type="checkbox"/> Jordan-Arabian <input type="checkbox"/> Kuwait-Arabian <input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon-Arabian <input type="checkbox"/> Oman-Arabian <input type="checkbox"/> Qatar-Arabian <input type="checkbox"/> Saudi Arabia-Arabian <input type="checkbox"/> United Arab Emirates <input type="checkbox"/> Yemen-Arabian <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Other Regions Traveled _____	
Infectious Symptoms <input type="checkbox"/> Fever/Body Aches <input type="checkbox"/> Gastrointestinal Symptoms <input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory Symptoms <input type="checkbox"/> None Isolation/Precaution Orders will trigger from all responses except NONE; accept the order screen when it presents. *Implement Precautions until further direction from Infectious Disease* For EBOLA and MERS ALERT use Airborne Respirator and White Contact Precautions Notify Avera Infectious Disease Specialist for all Africa - Ebola and Arabian - MERS alerts at 605-322-7250 (24 hr call service).	

Avera Infection Prevention Update

Infectious Diseases Travel

EBOLA

You can't turn the TV on without seeing messages about EBOLA. Here are some important facts:

- Signs may occur within 2 to 21 days after exposure and only spreads when people are ill with symptoms.
- Symptoms: Fever, Severe Headache, Muscle Pain, Diarrhea, Vomiting and Abdominal Pain.
- Isolation depends on the disease progression. All staff should place patients in Airborne Respirator and White Contact Precautions until assessed by Infectious Disease or Infection Control. Negative air pressure room is required.
- Avoid aerosol generating procedures such as bronchoscopy, sputum induction, etc.
- If a patient has respiratory symptoms without copious bleeding or is not intubated Droplet with eye protection and White contact precautions are indicated.
- Countries at risk are Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone, but this may change.

Be Suspicious. Restrict Visitors.

MERS COV

There is concern with the upcoming pilgrimage in the Arabian Peninsula. Here are some facts about MERS:

- The Hajj occurs October 2-7, 2014. 11,000 Americans make the pilgrimage yearly to Saudi Arabia.
- Symptoms include fever and pneumonia with acute respiratory distress.
- Suspect cases would have traveled to the Arabian Peninsula within 14 days or had close contact with a symptomatic traveler. Countries are Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Yemen.
- Isolation is Airborne Respirator and Contact Precautions. Negative Air Pressure Room is required.
- Always wear eye protection.
- Limit visitors. Limit transport.
- Mask patient during transport and until in negative air pressure room.

CDC recommends contact precautions using bleach for Ebola. White Contact Precautions is a frontline staff identified solution. When you see this sign, use bleach plus soap and water for hand hygiene. Bleach makes things white=White Contact Precautions.