

Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)

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What is Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)?

 One of many viral hemorrhagic fevers causing severe, high mortality disease in humans and nonhuman primates (monkeys, gorillas, chimpanzees, etc.). The natural host of EVD

What are symptoms that could occur?

Typical symptoms:

- Fever (above 100.4 F)
- Severe headaches
- Muscle pain
- Weakness
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Stomach pain
- Unexplained bleeding or bruising

Other symptoms:

- Rash
- Red eyes
- Hiccups
- Cough
- Chest pain
- · Difficulty breathing and swallowing
- Sore throat

How is it spread?

- Researchers believe the first human became infected by coming in contact with an infected animal
- Human-to-human spread can include:
 - Contact with blood or body fluids of infected people
 - o Indirect contact with environments or objects contaminated with the virus
- In rare cases, EVD can be spread through sexual contact

How is it diagnosed and treated?

- · There is not treatment
- Supportive therapy
 - IV fluids and balancing body salts
 - Maintaining the patient's oxygen status and blood pressure
 - Treating other infections if they occur

Who is at risk?

- Healthcare providers who are caring for Ebola patients
- Friends and family in close contact with Ebola patients

How can I prevent EVD?

- There is no approved vaccine for EVD
- If you must travel to an area affected by an Ebola outbreak:
 - Practice careful hand hygiene
 - Do not handle items that have come in contact with blood or bodily fluids
 - Avoid burial rituals that require handling an EVD infected individual
 - o Avoid facilities where EVD patients are being treated
 - Monitor your health for 21 days after returning; seek medical care IMMEDIATELY if you develop any of the symptoms noted above

If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

Call the Genesee County Health Department at 257-1017