



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

# Ebola Prevention and Response Training

## EMS Scenario

TRAINING EXERCISE! TRAINING EXERCISE!

# Objectives

- To recognize signs and symptoms of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)
- To initiate rapid response measures
- To evaluate current response plans
- To strategize to respond more effectively to a potential EVD outbreak

# Table Top Exercise Instructions

- Systematically think through the case as if it was a real scenario
- Participation and discussion is important
  - Teamwork
  - All comments and questions are valuable

# Who is a Person Under Investigation for Ebola?

## Clinical Criteria

- Fever  $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$
- OR**
- Any of the Following:
    - Headache
    - Muscle Pain
    - Vomiting
    - Diarrhea
    - Abdominal Pain
    - Unexplained bruising or bleeding

**AND**

## Epidemiological Risk Factors

- Symptom onset within past 21 days of exposure to any of the following:
  - Contact with blood, other bodily fluids or human remains of patient known or suspected to have EVD
  - Residence in or travel to area where EVD transmission is active
  - Direct handling of bats or other non-human primates in endemic area

# Scenario

You are an ambulance driver and you receive a call dispatching you to an urban apartment complex in Raleigh to transport a patient. You are told that the patient is complaining of fever, abdominal pain, vomiting and copious diarrhea.



# Discussion

- What other questions would you ask?



# Scenario Continued

- The patient reports that he ate at a local restaurant two days ago and has not been feeling well since then
- He states that he recently returned to Raleigh from Sierra Leone one week ago
- He does not remember any sick contacts, but he does report of attending a friend's funeral three days prior to his flight to the US

# Discussion Continued

- Would you be concerned about Ebola in this patient?



# Scenario Continued

- Upon further questioning, the patient reveals that his friend whose funeral he attended died unexpectedly of flu like symptoms
- The patient reports of living with his wife and three children

# Discussion Continued

- Could this be Ebola?



# From the EMS Perspective...

- What procedures will you take to protect EMS personnel and other health care workers?
- What infection control measures need to be taken?
- What preventive measures would you employ to protect yourself and others in the community?
- How would you decide which hospital you will transport this patient to?
- What is the procedure for contacting the Health Department?
- Who else needs to be notified?
- How would you disinfect the ambulance?

# From the Health Department Perspective...

- What measures would you take to protect and monitor his immediate family and close contacts?
- How will you identify who should be considered “contacts” for contact tracing in this situation?
  - Who will be actively monitored?
- What is the CDC guidance on the evaluation of ill patients suspected of Ebola coming from West Africa?
- What forms/instructions do we need? Are there any regulations that we need to comply with?
- What arrangements need to be made to accommodate and work with CDC investigators, DPH contact tracers, and the media, if necessary?

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**For more information, please contact the North Carolina Division of Public Health Communicable Disease Branch at 919-733-3419**