



Kentucky Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

At-A-Glance Guidance for Ebola Outbreak

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The Ebola outbreak in West Africa is a complex situation. The death rate from the disease is 50% and there is currently no vaccine or treatment specific to the Ebola virus. However, as we understand the science of the virus today, it is clear that detecting it and treating it early increases the rate of survival and decreases the likelihood of spread. We also know that mitigation of the Ebola virus requires a multitier approach beginning with stopping the virus at its root, closely and compassionately monitoring those potentially infected or who have been exposed to the virus from Ebola affected regions, and rapidly isolating those showing symptoms.

Recently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced that it was notifying states of travelers entering into their respective jurisdictions from the Ebola affected areas in West Africa. There are approximately 150 travelers per day entering into the United States from these countries in West Africa, of which 70% are expected to travel to one of 6 states as their final destination. Kentucky is NOT on the list of the top 20 states who receive these travelers. Kentucky expects to receive far less than 1% of the travelers from these affected countries in West Africa. Nevertheless, we need to be prepared to appropriately and actively monitor for signs of infection by the Ebola Virus. Kentucky is fortunate to be a state where most of its previously uninsured residents now have health insurance which promotes timely entry into our health system for evaluation of possible cases of Ebola, thus protecting the commonwealth and the nation.

Summary of Kentucky Guidance for Monitoring and Movement of People Exposed to Ebola Virus.

RISK LEVEL

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION

ASYMPTOMATIC	MONITORING	QUARANTINE	RESTRICT TRAVEL
<p>LOW RISK:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● having been in a country with widespread Ebola transmission within the previous 21 days and having no known exposures ● providing healthcare to a patient with Ebola in the United States while wearing appropriate PPE and there was no evidence of a breach in infection control practices 	<p>YES, Active Monitoring: The individual will be required to monitor his or her temperature twice daily and report those readings twice a day to local health officials on a schedule agreed upon by the individual and the health official.</p>	<p>NO, IF COMPLIANT WITH MONITORING As long as the individual is compliant with conditions of temperature monitoring and reporting, no quarantine will be required.</p>	<p>CASE BY CASE: The need for a controlled movement agreement or order will be decided on a case by case basis after extensive follow up screening by a local or state health official based upon scientific/medical risk factor analysis specific to the individual's exposure history.</p>

<p>SOME RISK:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● close contact with a person showing symptoms of Ebola such as in a household, healthcare facility or the community without wearing PPE ● providing healthcare to a patient with Ebola in countries with widespread Ebola transmission even if PPE was worn 	<p>YES, Active Monitoring: The individual will be required to monitor his or her temperature twice daily and report those readings twice a day to local health officials on a schedule agreed upon by the individual and the health official.</p>	<p>CASE BY CASE: The need for a quarantine agreement or order will be determined on a case by case basis after extensive screening by a local or state health official based upon scientific/medical risk factor analysis specific to the individual's exposure history.</p>	<p>YES, the individual will be asked to forego travel by public means (taxis, buses, airplanes, etc.) without prior approval of state or local health officials. The individual will also be asked to forego travel outside of the county or state without prior approval of the local or state health department.</p>
<p>HIGH RISK: direct contact with infected body fluids through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● needle stick, splashes to eyes, nose, or mouth or directly on skin ● handling body fluids such as in a laboratory, without wearing PPE or following recommended safety precautions ● touching a dead body without correctly wearing PPE in a country with widespread Ebola transmission ● living with and caring for a person showing symptoms of Ebola 	<p>YES, Direct Active Monitoring: Local or state health department officials will actively monitor the individual by checking his or her temperature and any possible symptoms in person or via other approved means.</p>	<p>YES, the individual will be encouraged to sign an agreement to remain at home or another approved location. Household members can decide whether they will also remain in the home with the individual as long as he or she is not experiencing symptoms of Ebola. Visitors will not be allowed without state or local health department approval. However, state and local health department officials will work with community partners to help meet essential needs of the individual. If the individual refuses to agree to the quarantine, official may seek a court order for quarantine.</p>	<p>YES, The individual will be restricted to the home or another approved location and will not travel without prior approval of state or local health department officials.</p>