



Thomas Jefferson EMS Council, Inc.
Regional Response Guideline
Potential EVD (Ebola Virus Disease) patients

Information on EVD is a dynamic situation; therefore information in this guideline may change frequently. Updates to this guideline will be posted on the TJEMS website (www.tjems.org) as they are made. At all times administrative personnel/providers/etc. are to follow the recommendations of the CDC.

PSAP (public safety answer point):

- During call taking process the Communication Officer are encouraged to:
 - Use travel screening tool (See Appendix A)
 - Call types to use screening tool
 - Sick person
 - N/V, fever, malaise, muscle aches, fatigue, headache, weakness
 - Hemorrhage (internal or non-traumatic)
 - Chest pain
 - Respiratory distress
 - Abdominal pain
 - Seizure
 - Unresponsive
 - Communication Officers will alert dispatched unit using the following designated regional alert information, if travel screening tool is positive:
 - Use “Fever/travel precautions” to alert responders to what type of patient they may be dealing with.
 - This designation may be different in other Regional EMS Council areas.
 - Modified responses may be in order in an effort to minimize personnel exposure
 - Recommendation for a “single” unit response (i.e. no fire apparatus, ambulance only)

Agency Responders

- Upon arrival
 - Send a **single responder**, adequately trained in and equipped with appropriate PPE, to:
 - Re-confirm travel screen
 - Assess patient:
 - Minimally ill patients
 - Assessment = pulse
 - More seriously ill patients
 - Assessment should be made through an indirect method (i.e.

through a door, etc.)

- If travel screen is confirmed to be positive, the provider should then:
 - Obtain a phone number in order for VDH staff to contact the patient directly
 - Call Virginia Department of Health
 - Normal business hours 8am – 430pm, Monday – Friday
 - Planning District 10
 - 1-434-972-6200
 - Planning District 9 (for Madison County)
 - 1-540-948-5481
 - After hours, weekend, holidays
 - 1-866-531-3068
 - Call Order:
 - Dr. Charles Devine = 1-540-533-2269
 - Ryan McKay = 1-434-964-8662
 - Providers should expect the VDH staff to:
 - Ask further questions in regards to the travel screen
 - What type of exposures they would have had
 - Travel dates
 - Make transport decision and contact hospital in addition to the provider

Transport

- If EMS transport is determined to be necessary
 - Patient
 - Place a surgical mask on patient
 - Provider
 - Limit the number of providers in the back of the unit
 - Unit
 - Patient compartment must be “sheeted” with minimally 3mil plastic sheeting taped to the ceiling of unit using painters tape.
 - Non-disposable equipment should be moved to an exterior compartment and/or passenger seat.
 - Disposable equipment may also be moved to prevent contamination.
 - If patient is ambulatory
 - Have patient move to the unit under their own power
 - If patient is not ambulatory
 - Contact appropriate communication center; request additional personnel to respond to scene for vehicle operation and preparedness.
 - Provider is to contact appropriate hospital with a patient report via land-line (preferred), if not feasible, then radio communication can be done using the regional alert designation

- Transport to destination as facilitated by VDH.
 - UVA – transport to loading dock
 - 1-434-924-9287 to make report
 - MJH/Sentara – transport to ED
 - 1-434-654-7150 to make report
- Upon arrival at facility
 - Attendant is to remain in unit with patient
 - UVA
 - Personnel will meet unit to escort patient and crew to appropriate location
 - MJH/Sentara – ED
 - Further direction will be given upon arrival at facility
 - Other facilities
 - Follow direction of the facility

Post transport

- Providers
 - Decontamination –
 - Providers will doff and dispose of PPE utilizing CDC recommendations see CDC recommendations for doffing PPE at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/procedures-for-ppe.html>
 - In appropriate area
 - The use of the “buddy system” is required
- Ambulance –
 - Decontamination
 - See appendix B
- Waste
 - If patient is transported, waste is to be left at facility
 - No patient transport
 - Follow DEQ (Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality) recommendations at: www.deq.virginia.gov

Provider return to service criteria

- Follow recommendations of VDH