



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

POST OFFICE BOX 962, 1060 EMELINE AVENUE SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0962
(831) 454-4114 FAX: (831) 454-5049 TDD: (831) 454-4123

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UNIT

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE EBOLA VIRUS (EVD)

To:	All Healthcare Providers
From:	Lisa B. Hernandez, Health Officer, Santa Cruz County
Date:	Oct. 3, 2014
Release #:	2014EVD1-2

CURRENT SITUATION

On September 30, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirmed, through laboratory tests, the first case of Ebola to be diagnosed in the United States in a person who had traveled to Dallas, TX from Liberia.

Although the risk of an Ebola outbreak in the United States is very low, it is important for healthcare providers, facilities, and coalitions to remain vigilant and take steps to be as prepared as possible to protect our communities and our nation from emerging infectious diseases such as EVD.

To encourage widespread preparation for managing patients with EVD and other infectious diseases, please see below for links to checklists that can be useful in determining procedures.

INFORMATION

- The “**Detailed Hospital Checklist for Ebola Preparedness**” is intended to enhance our collective preparedness and response efforts by highlighting key areas for hospital staff -- especially hospital emergency management officers, infection control practitioners, and clinical practitioners -- to review in preparation for a person with EVD arriving at a hospital for medical care:
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/hospital-checklist-ebola-preparedness.pdf>
- The “**Checklist for Healthcare Coalitions for Ebola Preparedness**” is intended to enhance collective preparedness and response by highlighting key areas for healthcare coalitions to review in preparing to care for patients possibly infected with the Ebola virus. The checklist provides practical and specific suggestions to ensure healthcare coalition members are able to *detect* possible Ebola cases, *protect* employees, and *respond* appropriately: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/coalition-checklist-ebola-preparedness.pdf>

- The “**Detailed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Checklist for Ebola Preparedness**” is intended to enhance collective preparedness and response by highlighting key areas for EMS personnel to review in preparation for encountering and providing medical care to a person with Ebola.
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ems-checklist-ebola-preparedness.pdf>

CDC has numerous published resources and references to help you prepare. You should frequently monitor the CDC’s [Ebola website](#) for up-to-date information as these resources may change as experts learn more about EVD.

The California Health Alert Network (CAHAN) also sent important information to providers posted to the following link: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00371.asp>



Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action