



TO: Riverside County EMS System

FROM: Daved van Stralen, Medical Director

SUBJECT: Suspected Ebola Virus Disease

DATE: October 10, 2014

As you are aware, the 2014 Ebola epidemic is the largest Ebola outbreak in history and a travel-associated case of Ebola has been diagnosed in the United States. At my direction, the Riverside County EMS Agency has instituted an additional policy:

3307 – Emerging Viruses (<http://remsa.us/policy/3307.pdf>)

This policy specifies the procedures to be followed when emerging viruses, such as Ebola, are suspected during emergency call taking and response or confirmed prior to interfacility transport. Please review and follow this new policy. It is effective immediately.

Ebola should be considered in anyone who:

- Has a fever and;
- Has traveled to, has lived in, or has had contact with someone who has traveled to West Africa (Guinea, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, or Liberia)

Or:

- Has a fever and;
- Has had contact with someone who has had confirmed or suspected Ebola

Initial signs and symptoms of Ebola include sudden fever, chills, and muscle aches, with diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, and abdominal pain occurring after about 5 days. Other symptoms such as chest pain, shortness of breath, headache, or confusion, may also develop. Symptoms may become increasingly severe and may include jaundice (yellow skin), severe weight loss, mental confusion, unexplained bleeding inside and outside the body, shock, and multi-organ failure.

Please review and follow Policy 3307. It is effective immediately.



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