



Federal Ministry of Health, Nigeria

Standard Operating Procedures for Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) screening at Points of Entry

1. Before the arrival of the plane:

- a. For planes arriving from countries with confirmed /suspected EVD, the Port Health Officer calls and confirms from the crew if there are passengers that show symptoms consistent with EVD case definition.
- b. If there are passengers that show symptoms consistent with EVD preparation such as enhancing staff and possible evacuation routes should be enforced immediately
- c. Lines and routes of exit of the passengers from the plane should allow a the observation of individual traveler
- d. Should symptoms be evident, the screening form below shall be completed
- e. Alert security for crowd management should be instituted
- f. Alert other staff and airport worked to limit the presence in key transit areas to minimum

2. Managing passengers exiting the airplane

- a. Passengers disembarking the plane should be moved through guided passages that allow observation by Port Health officers
- b. Security officers should be in this area to supplement the extraction of the symptomatic passengers for completion of the form and physical observation
- c. Active radio contact must be present to expedite evacuation/isolation of the worst cases or uncooperative travelers
- d. Safe and secure holding areas with capacity for temporarily quarantine must be present at the airport
- e. Random selection of passengers for screening should also be considered from countries where Ebola is endemic.

SCREEN-ISOLATE-NOTIFY

3. Screen/ triage individuals

- a. Conduct the interview from a respectful distance of 1-2 metres.
- b. No extra personal protective equipment is required when interviewing the patient if this distance is maintained. Should you wish to wear gloves, that is acceptable.
- c. If the patient is vomiting, bleeding, or having diarrhea at the visit, they should be moved immediately to a separate area and PPE should be used (gown, gloves, mask, goggles or face shield, and shoe covers)

- d. Interview the patient.
 - i. Ask about these symptoms: fever, vomiting, diarrhea, bleeding (at mucous membranes or in stool), headaches, muscle aches, joint aches, weakness
 - ii. Be mindful that most people with fever will not have EVD, even from affected areas. When in doubt, confer with a physician on how to proceed.
 - iii. If a temperature must be taken, do so carefully with gloves and without touching the patient.
- e. Ask about these exposures:
 - i. The patient has visited an affected area within the past 3 weeks OR has had contact with an ill individual who had visited an affected area within 3 weeks of becoming ill
 - ii. Close contact with a confirmed case of EVD
 - iii. Close contact with a person who died, if the person who died (from a febrile illness or unexplained cause) had visited an affected area within 3 weeks of becoming ill
 - iv. Participated in a funeral service within 3 weeks of having a fever where the funeral was held in an affected area; or
 - v. The decedent had been in an affected within 3 weeks of becoming ill
- f. **Determine if a patient has possible Ebola Virus Disease:**

ANY SYMPTOMS + ANY EXPOSURE

- i. If the patient does not meet these criteria, but the staff remains suspicious for EVD, seek consultation with a physician. The response team is available for consultation with your medical staff.
- ii. Perform hand hygiene immediately after seeing the patient. Clean your hands with soap and water, alcohol-based hand rub, or chlorine solution 0.05%.

4. ISOLATE patients with suspected Ebola Virus Disease.

- a. Have the patient move immediately to an area isolated from patients and staff, such as a separate room.
- b. The patient should not be in contact with any persons, including clinical staff, until the ambulance team arrives
- c. Should the patient be critically ill and the health care team on site must administer care and is trained, barrier PPE is essential:
- d. Gown, gloves, mask, and eye coverings are essential
- e. Shoe or boot covers and head cover is optional
- f. If these items are not available, try using plastic bags and tape as a barrier
- g. If the patient had active vomiting, diarrhea or bleeding, secure the soiled area so that it is separate from any persons. You can place a chair, tape, or other object to block access to the soiled area.

5. NOTIFY the health authorities immediately in order for patient collection to be arranged (080.0326.6524.357)