
PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY
UPDATED GUIDANCE ON THE MANAGEMENT OF TRAVELERS
FROM EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE (EVD) IMPACTED WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES
JANUARY 6, 2016

Situation Update

On December 29, 2015, the World Health Organization declared Guinea free of EVD transmission after 42 days (two incubation periods) had passed since the last Ebola patient tested negative. On January 4, 2016, based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) modified the recommendations for the management and monitoring of travelers from Guinea

Travelers from Guinea are considered to have extremely low risk of developing EVD. CDC guidance indicates that no EVD specific precautions are needed and the traveler may be seen by their health care provider.

As of December 30, 2015, 28,637 EVD cases with 11,315 deaths have been reported as part of the 2014 outbreak. Additional information on the outbreak is located at: <http://cdc.gov/vhf/ebola>
No EVD cases have been reported in Riverside County, or California.

Recommendations for the Management of Travelers from Sierra Leone

Medical providers should use clinical judgement to evaluate patients based on their travel and exposure history, and clinical presentation.

- If the patient reports travel from Guinea in the past 21 days, Ebola-specific precautions are NOT required. Appropriate infection control measures should be implemented based the patient's clinical presentation.
- Health care and emergency medical service providers should maintain awareness of travel-related infectious diseases and screen for travel history on all patients, especially those with fever, rash and/or acute respiratory symptoms.
- Patients should be assessed for other possible infectious disease exposures such as MERS, malaria, measles based on the clinical presentation and travel history.

Disease Reporting Requirements

Urgent conditions should be reported immediately to Public Health during business hours at (951) 358-5107 and after hours at (951) 782-2974.

Current Requirements are located at:

http://www.rivco-diseasecontrol.org/Portals/0/April_14_Disease_Reporting_Requirements.pdf