



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Region IV Public Health
Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, Wahkiakum counties
and Cowlitz Tribe

Health Advisory

Please deliver a copy of the accompanying advisory to each provider in your organization. Questions regarding this advisory may be directed to the following Region IV health officers:

Alan Melnick, MD, MPH, CPH

Clark County Public Health, (360) 397-8412

Sarah D. Present MD, MPH

Skamania County Community Health, (509) 427-3850

Wahkiakum County Health & Human Services, (360) 795-8630

Jennifer Vines, MD, MPH

Cowlitz County Health & Human Services, (360) 414-5599

Please distribute

Categories of Health Alert messages:

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

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

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Region IV Public Health
Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, Wahkiakum counties
and Cowlitz Tribe

HEALTH ADVISORY

August 29, 2014

TO: Physicians and other Healthcare Providers

FROM: Alan Melnick, MD, MPH, CPH, Health Officer
Sarah Present, MD, MPH, Health Officer
Jennifer Vines, MD, MPH, Health Officer

RE: Updated CDC guidance related to Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)

Please be advised that due to rapidly evolving circumstances concerning the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is updating its website on a daily basis, including new guidelines and tools for providers.

Although the CDC says Ebola does not pose a significant risk to the U.S. public, we encourage all providers to monitor the CDC's website regularly for the latest information. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/guinea/index.html>.

As of August 28, the number of suspect and confirmed cases in West Africa now stands at more than 3,000; the actual number of cases could be many thousands more.

Some recently posted tools, guidelines, and other information from the CDC's website include the following:

- [Questions and Answers on Ebola](#) - Updated August 28, 2014
- [Infographic: What is Contact Tracing?\[PDF - 1 page\]](#) - August 26, 2014
- [Interim Guidance for Specimen Collection, Transport, Testing, and Submission for Persons Under Investigation for Ebola Virus Disease in the United States](#) - Updated August 26, 2014
- [Interim Guidance for Emergency Medical Services \(EMS\) Systems and 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points \(PSAPs\) for Management of Patients with Known or Suspected Ebola Virus Disease in the United States](#) - August 26, 2014
- [Guidance for Safe Handling of Human Remains of Ebola Patients in U. S. Hospitals and Mortuaries](#) - August 25, 2014

- [Advice for Humanitarian Aid Workers Traveling to Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, or Sierra Leone during the Ebola Outbreak](#) (on Traveler's Health website) - August 23, 2014
- [Case Definition for Ebola Virus Disease \(EVD\)](#) - Updated August 22, 2014
- [Interim Guidance for Monitoring and Movement of Persons with Ebola Virus Disease Exposure](#) - Updated August 22, 2014
- [Factsheet: Interim Guidance for Specimen Collection, Transport, Testing, and Submission for Patients with Suspected Infection with Ebola Virus Disease\[PDF - 1 page\]](#) - August 21, 2014

Health care workers are encouraged to visit
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/index.html>.

The Washington State Department of Health Public Health Laboratories will have the capability of performing Ebola testing in the near future. Until then, any Ebola testing will be coordinated through local and state public health for testing at CDC.

To report notifiable conditions or if you have questions, please call:

- Clark County Public Health: (360) 397-8182.
- Cowlitz County Health Department: (360) 414-5599
- Skamania County Community Health: (509) 427-3850
- Wahkiakum County Health and Human Services (360) 795-6207

Thank you for your partnership.