

To: Vermont Health Care Providers and Facilities
Date: October 1, 2025
From: Natalie Kwit, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, State Public Health Veterinarian

Ebola Outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Background

The Ministry of Public Health in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) declared a new outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) on September 4, 2025, in a remote area of Kasai Province. As of September 28, 2025, there are 64 people with confirmed or probable Ebola and 42 deaths, including several health workers, with a case fatality rate of about 62%. CDC expects frequent changes to these case counts.

No Ebola cases have been identified in the United States, and the overall risk to the U.S. remains low at this time. Access to the outbreak region is difficult and there are no direct flights between the DRC and the United States. CDC is raising awareness as a precaution since travelers from affected areas in DRC might enter the U.S. on flights connecting through other countries.

Requested Actions

- Ask all patients with acute febrile illness if they traveled to or have had contact with anyone who has traveled to the DRC, especially Kasai Province, within the past 21 days.
- Suspect EVD in patients with fever, severe headache, muscle aches, vomiting, diarrhea, bleeding, or unexplained hemorrhage following travel to the outbreak area.
- Isolate suspected EVD cases immediately: minimize staff interactions, restrict room access, and document exposed personnel.
- Consider more common diagnoses such as malaria, COVID-19, influenza, or other common causes of gastrointestinal and febrile illnesses in patients with recent international travel and evaluate and manage the patient appropriately.
- Immediately report any febrile patient with relevant travel exposure within 21 days to VDH at **802-863-7240, Option 2 (24/7)**.

You have received this message based upon the information contained within our emergency notification data base. If you have a different or additional e-mail address or fax number that you would like us to use, please contact your Health Alert Network (HAN) Coordinator at: ythan@vermont.gov.

- Review and exercise facility-level Ebola preparedness plans.

Clinical Summary

- Ebola disease is caused by a group of viruses known as orthoebolaviruses (formerly ebolavirus). Ebola disease most commonly affects humans and nonhuman primates, such as monkeys, chimpanzees, and gorillas.
- The incubation period for EVD ranges from 2 to 21 days after exposure. An infected person is only considered contagious after symptoms appear. Early "dry" symptoms include fever, aches, pains, and fatigue and later "wet" symptoms include diarrhea, vomiting, and unexplained bleeding.
- Ebola disease is spread through contact (through broken skin or mucous membranes) with the body fluids (e.g., blood, urine, feces, saliva, semen, or other secretions) of a person who is sick with or has died from Ebola disease. Ebola disease is also spread by infected animals, or through contact with objects like needles that are contaminated with the virus. Ebola disease is not spread through airborne transmission.
- An Ebola vaccine is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for preventing EVD from the species causing the current outbreak in the DRC, *Orthoebolavirus zairense*, and should only be given to [patients who meet specific criteria](#). Two FDA-approved treatments are currently available to treat Ebola virus infection: Inmazeb™ and Ebanga™.
- Previous outbreaks of EVD have had fatality rates as high as 80 to 90%, depending on the species. With intense supportive care and fluid replacement, fatality rates might be lower.

Additional Resources

- [Ebola Outbreak in the DRC: Current Situation \(CDC\)](#)
- [Clinical Guidance for Ebola Disease \(CDC\)](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients in U.S. Hospitals who are Suspected or Confirmed to have Selected Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers \(VHF\) \(CDC\)](#)
- [Ebola Virus Disease: NETEC Resource Library](#)

You have received this message based upon the information contained within our emergency notification data base. If you have a different or additional e-mail address or fax number that you would like us to use, please contact your Health Alert Network (HAN) Coordinator at: ythan@vermont.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact Patsy Kelso at: Patsy.Kelso@vermont.gov

To have your information updated please email the
Vermont HAN Coordinator at: vthan@vermont.gov.

HAN Message Type Definitions

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.

Info Service Message: Provides general correspondence from the Vermont Department of Health, which is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.

You have received this message based upon the information contained within our emergency notification data base. If you have a different or additional e-mail address or fax number that you would like us to use, please contact your Health Alert Network (HAN) Coordinator at: vthan@vermont.gov.
