

HEALTHCARE EMERGENCY COORDINATION CENTER - SNAPSHOT REPORT #6**DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2014****TIME: 1600****SITUATION UPDATE**

The October 23rd Ebola Virus Disease confirmed positive test of a New York City physician has spurred calls and action from several states to boost their monitoring and/or quarantine capabilities for residents who have returned from EVD-affected areas in West Africa (see section below for more information). Virginia Dept. of Health, for example, announced today that it will actively monitor the health of all travelers arriving from Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. VHD will work through local health districts to make contact with these travelers and provide them with specific guidance, information, and telephone numbers for 24/7 assistance. All travelers will be asked to take and record their temperature at least twice per day, among other provisions.

(<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/news/PressReleases/2014/102714ebola.htm>)

Locally, a Thurston County physician who recently returned from Liberia and didn't come in contact with anyone with Ebola has agreed to self-monitor for fever and other symptoms of the disease and work closely with health officials. According to the County news release, the physician trained health professionals in infection control procedures at clinics that were not treating Ebola patients.

(<http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/xml/newsreleases/newsrelease.asp?mod=2&id=859>)

KEY ACTIONS BY NORTHWEST HEALTHCARE RESPONSE NETWORK

- The Network continues to assist Public Health – Seattle & King County, Tacoma-Pierce County Public Health, and local hospitals planning for Ebola response.
- A chatroom in WATrac ('Ebola Coordination') has been created to discuss EVD preparedness and response. The room is located under the 'command center'. For questions or issues with this chatroom, contact NWHRN.
- Washington State Department of Health has asked NWHRN to survey seven health systems/hospitals throughout the state for Ebola preparedness. The survey is based on a CDC checklist for hospital Ebola preparedness.
- NWHRN is developing a process for hospitals to provide mutual aid resources to another facility caring for an Ebola patient.

KEY ACTIONS BY OTHER REGIONAL OR STATE AGENCIES

- A Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Group has been formed to support Ebola preparedness statewide. Members of the group include Washington state Dept. of Health the Network, Washington State Hospital Association, Washington State Nurses Association, Washington State Medical Association, Public Health – Seattle & King County, Tacoma Pierce County Public Health, Snohomish Health District and Spokane Regional Health District

CURRENT NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- CDC released today 'Interim U.S. Guidance for Monitoring and Movement of Persons with Potential Ebola Virus Exposure': <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/exposure/monitoring-and-movement-of-persons-with-exposure.html>. In a related Factsheet, CDC states that the interim guidance, "focuses on strengthening how we monitor people who may have been exposed to Ebola and how medical professionals will oversee their care and, when warranted to protect the public health or our communities, limit their movement or activities."
 - CDC has also updated its Emergency Department guidance, 'Identify, Isolate, Inform: Emergency Department Evaluation and Management for Patients Who Present with Possible Ebola Virus

Disease' on Oct. 25: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/ed-management-patients-possible-ebola.html>

- The Infectious Disease Society of America today released a 'Statement on Involuntary Quarantine of Healthcare Workers Returning from Ebola-Affected Countries': http://www.idsociety.org/2014_ebola_quarantine/. The Statement notes that "IDSA does not support mandatory involuntary quarantine of asymptomatic healthcare workers returning from Ebola-affected areas. This approach carries unintended negative consequences without significant additional benefits."
- Several states have initiated involuntary quarantine procedures for travelers returning from West Africa, including New York, New Jersey, Illinois and Florida. Specifics of the quarantines vary by state, and additional states such as Virginia have initiated heightened monitoring of returned travelers from Ebola-affected areas (CNN: <http://www.cnn.com/2014/10/27/health/ebola-us-quarantine-controversy/index.html>; AP, <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/gov-rick-scott-orders-21-day-monitoring-ebola-26463732>).
- The Joint Commission has released a paper highlighting that its accreditation chapters are focal to identifying strengths and/or gaps to safely and effectively manage the infectious Ebola patient within a healthcare organization, while minimizing the risk of transmission to self or others: http://www.jointcommission.org/joint_commission_standards_safely_and_effectively_managing_the_infectious_ebola_patient/
- OSHA has updated its Ebola Safety & Health website to include a factsheet on 'Cleaning and Decontamination of Ebola on Surfaces': <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/ebola/index.html>
- The World Health Organization last Friday, Oct. 24, convened industry leaders to discuss trial and production of Ebola vaccines: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2014/ebola-vaccines-production/en/>. Highlights:
 - Results from phase 1 clinical trials of most advanced vaccines are expected to be available in December and efficacy trials in affected countries also will begin in this timeframe, with protocols adapted to take into consideration safety and immunogenicity results as they become available.
 - Pharmaceutical companies developing the vaccines committed to ramp up production capacity for millions of doses to be available in 2015, with several hundred thousand ready before the end of the first half of the year.
 - WHO Ebola vaccines, therapies, and diagnostics website: http://www.who.int/medicines/emp_ebola_section/en/

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Tuesday, October 28th 1:00 pm ET, Webinar: Ebola Preparedness and Response: What Every Nurse Needs to Know, American Nurses Association (ANA)
 - <https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=reg20.jsp&eventid=876357&sessionid=1&key=DA6329A9C22C23BA0036F2237092C24E&sourcepage=register>
- Thursday, October 30th 1:00 pm ET, Webinar: Lessons Learned From Texas: How You Can Help With the Ebola Threat,
 - Sponsored by the Texas Nurses Association, Texas Organization for Executive Nurses, and the American Nurses Association
 - <https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=reg20.jsp&eventid=876407&sessionid=1&key=0CFA0456213478871C0F3045B4DA70DC&sourcepage=register>