

# Readiness Advisory

## CDC/ASPR DETAILED HOSPITAL CHECKLIST FOR EBOLA PREPAREDNESS

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

#### At Issue:

Hospitals prepare for all types of emergencies every day to care for their patients and communities, and every hospital has plans in place for patients with infectious diseases. As the outbreak of Ebola virus disease in West Africa and travel between West Africa and the rest of the world continues, there is an increasing likelihood that more individuals with suspected Ebola will present to U.S. hospital emergency departments and that additional medical and other volunteers who have contracted Ebola will be brought to U.S. hospitals for treatment. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) recently prepared the attached "Detailed Checklist for Ebola Preparedness" to enhance hospitals' preparedness and response efforts by highlighting key areas for hospital staff to review in preparation for a person with Ebola arriving at a hospital for medical care. We are sharing it again in light of yesterday's announcement that a case of Ebola has been diagnosed in Dallas.

#### Our Take:

Hospitals should review the attached checklist, as well as other CDC and ASPR Ebola resources. Doing so will help ensure that you can quickly detect a patient with a possible case of Ebola, appropriately protect hospital staff so that they can continue to safely care for patients and enable a coordinated response. Additional resources are available on the <a href="https://dx.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/AHA">AHA</a> website. The AHA will continue to share updated guidance as it becomes available. Please watch AHA News Now for the latest information.

#### What You Can Do:

- Share this checklist with your clinical leadership, nursing leadership, emergency department, emergency management staff, infection control practitioners, employee health services, environmental health services and materials managers.
- CDC is continually updating its resources as more information becomes available.
  For the latest information, please visit their Ebola website at <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/">http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/</a>.

• Visit the AHA's <u>Ebola preparedness webpage</u>, which has a variety of resources that hospitals and health systems can use to prepare for Ebola.

### **Further Questions:**

Please contact Roslyne Schulman, director, policy development, at (202) 626-2273 or <a href="mailto:rschulman@aha.org">rschulman@aha.org</a>.

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