



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

Scott Walker, Governor
Kitty Rhoades, Secretary

Ebola Situation Report

November 13, 2014

Overview

- There are no Ebola cases in Wisconsin at this time.
- As of November 12, 2014, thirteen people in Wisconsin currently meet the criteria for Ebola surveillance by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). DHS has monitored a total of 60 people, 47 of whom have passed the 21-day incubation period for Ebola and no longer require monitoring.
- DHS is being notified of all individuals from the affected West African countries travelling to Wisconsin, and is actively monitoring the individuals. Local public health departments (LHD) are in daily communication with these individuals and are checking to assess for the presence of fever or other symptoms. By actively monitoring these individuals DHS is minimizing the risk of spreading Ebola by ensuring that if these individuals become ill, they are identified as soon as possible after symptom onset so they can be rapidly isolated and evaluated.
- In the event Ebola is diagnosed in the state, DHS will work with partners and the three designated health systems to care for patients, ensuring that the patient receives the best care while protecting healthcare workers and the general public.

What the Department of Health Services (DHS) is doing to prepare

- On Monday, November 3, DHS released a memo containing *Guidance for Local Health Department Staff Regarding Direct Active Post-Arrival Monitoring of Travelers from West Africa*. This guidance includes a new directive from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention requiring that persons who have been classified as either high or some risk experience daily direct active monitoring by the LHD. Direct active monitoring requires that a public health official directly observes the individual at least once a day to review symptoms and check temperature.
- DHS has established a three-level approach to categorizing healthcare facilities that may receive Ebola patients. Category one consists of treatment facilities; category two contains testing and early care facilities; and category three are those facilities that will screen and transfer only. A similar strategy for categorizing the participation of EMS services in Ebola response is under development.
- DHS staff members are participating in a two-part internal tabletop exercise testing the state's Ebola Response Plan. The second part will occur on November 19, 2014.
- The Wisconsin Clinical Advisory Team, composed of representatives from several Wisconsin hospital systems, met for the second time to advise DHS in its ongoing work on Ebola, including identifying

optimal personal protective equipment, care integration between hospitals, disposal of hazardous medical waste, and decontamination procedures.

- DHS hosted the sixth in a series of weekly webcasts on Tuesday, November 11, that reviewed the role of non-designated healthcare facilities in Ebola response followed by a Q&A period. A recording of this webcast (and previous webcasts) can be found at:
<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/diseasepages/ebolawebcasts.htm>.
- DHS continues to assist all partners by receiving, tracking, and disseminating the most up to date guidance from other state and federal partners. Visit the DHS Ebola website for more information:
<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/diseasepages/ebola.htm>.

Upcoming Ebola Outreach and Webinars

- The next weekly webcast for Wisconsin's Ebola response will be held on Tuesday November 18, 2014 at 2:00pm. Topics will include an introduction to the state's new guidance on the decontamination of non-healthcare settings in the case of Ebola and a presentation on experiences at the local level coordinating Ebola readiness between public health, EMS and law enforcement. A link for this webcast and previous webcasts can be found at:
<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/diseasepages/ebolawebcasts.htm>.
- A webcast titled "Overview of Wisconsin Legal Powers and Ebola" will be held on Thursday, November 20, 2014 at 2:00 pm. Legal Counsel with the Department of Health Services Shelley Malofsky will provide an overview, introduce legal document templates, and answer questions. This webcast is scheduled for 90 minutes. The link for this webcast and recordings of previous webcasts can be found at: <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/diseasepages/ebolawebcasts.htm>.