



Health Alert Network

Tri-County Health Department

Serving Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties

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John M. Douglas, Jr., M.D. Executive Director

The pages that follow contain information critical to protecting the health of your patients and the citizens of Colorado.

HAN UPDATE

Number of pages including cover: 2

Subject: **Update - Change in Status for Travelers from Liberia to the United States**

Message ID: 6/18/2015 3:00:00 PM

Recipients: HAN Community Members.

From: TRI-COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas County, Colorado

Recipient Instructions: **For your information. No response required.**

You have received this message based upon the information contained within our Health Alert Network Notification System. If you have a different or additional e-mail or fax address that you would like us to use, or if you have additional questions, call 720-200-1477.

Categories of Health Alert Network Messages:

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/Public Health Brief: Provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.

You may download a copy of this HAN from the TCHD website at
<http://www.tchd.org/259/Health-Alert-Network>



HEALTH ALERT NETWORK BROADCAST

MESSAGE ID: 20150618 15:00

FROM: Tri-County Health Department, adapted from Denver Public Health

SUBJECT: HAN Update – Updated Guidelines for Ebola Monitoring of Patients Recently In West Africa

RECIPIENTS: Primary, Family & General Care, Critical & Emergency Care, Urgent Care, Hospitalists, Internal Medicine

RECIPIENT INSTRUCTIONS: For Your Information

HEALTH UPDATE

Change in Status for Travelers from Liberia to the United States

June 18, 2015

******Health care providers: Please distribute widely in your office******

KEY POINTS:

- On May 9, 2015, WHO declared the end of the Ebola outbreak in Liberia. **As of June 17, 2015, the U.S. government is modifying its enhanced Ebola entry screening and monitoring program for travelers returning from Liberia only.** Travelers will receive modified Check and Report Ebola (CARE) kits with instructions for them to watch their own health for 21 days after leaving Liberia and to contact their state health departments if they have a fever or any other symptoms consistent with Ebola.
- **CDPHE will no longer receive notifications from CDC regarding travelers from Liberia, and travelers from Liberia will no longer be contacted daily (actively monitored) by public health.**
- **Travelers from Guinea and Sierra Leone will continue to be actively monitored by public health.**
- **The current Ebola outbreak, along with other emerging infectious disease outbreaks, reinforces the value of consistently obtaining a travel history when evaluating patients with possible infectious disease.**
- **TCHD recommends health care providers universally screen patients for travel to Sierra Leone and Guinea. If a patient presents with symptoms of Ebola, healthcare providers should also screen for travel to Liberia.**

Health care providers should continue to:

- Ask about travel to Sierra Leone and Guinea (in West Africa) for all patients.
- Ask about exposure to persons with suspected or confirmed Ebola within the past 21 days for any patient experiencing fever or other symptoms of Ebola (severe headache, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, or unexplained hemorrhage). Patients with such symptoms should also be asked about recent travel to Liberia.
- Isolate patients who: (a) report a travel history to a country experiencing widespread transmission of Ebola (currently Sierra Leone and Guinea) or (b) report exposure to persons with suspected or confirmed Ebola and are exhibiting Ebola symptoms (regardless of travel history). Keep these individuals in a private room with a private bathroom and follow CDC-recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) guidance.
- Call CDPHE at 303-692-2700 (or after hours at 303-370-9395) if a case of Ebola is suspected.