

Ebola Update

Presentation to Public Safety Commission
November 3, 2014

Ebola

- ▶ Viral disease in humans and nonhuman primates
- ▶ Initially recognized in Africa in 1976
- ▶ Natural reservoir is unknown
- ▶ Five known Ebola virus strains
 - Zaire, Sudan, Tai Forest, Bundibugyo, Reston

2014 Ebola Outbreak in West Africa

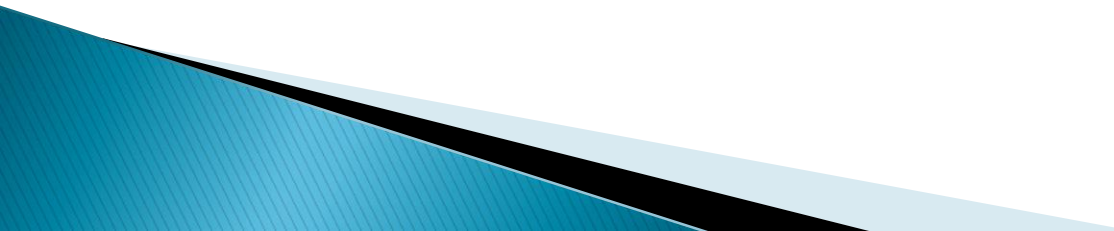
- ▶ Over 13,700 cases
 - Guinea – 1,906 cases
 - Liberia – 6,535 cases
 - Sierra Leone – 5,235 cases
 - Nigeria – 20 cases

- ▶ Over 4,910 deaths



As of October 27, 2014

Signs and symptoms

- ▶ Fever (greater than 100.4°F)
 - ▶ Severe headache
 - ▶ Muscle pain
 - ▶ Weakness
 - ▶ Diarrhea
 - ▶ Vomiting
 - ▶ Abdominal (stomach) pain
 - ▶ Unexplained hemorrhage (bleeding or bruising)
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Transmission

- ▶ Ebola is spread through direct contact (through broken skin or mucous membranes) with:
 - blood or body fluids (including but not limited to urine, saliva, feces, vomit, and semen) of a person who is sick with Ebola, or
 - objects (like needles and syringes) that have been contaminated with the virus, or
 - contact with infected animals
- ▶ Ebola is not spread through the air or by water, or in general food.
- ▶ A person with Ebola is not infectious until after symptoms have developed – not before.

EVD Cases (United States)

- As of October 30, 2014, EVD has been diagnosed in the United States in four people, one (the index patient) who traveled to Dallas, Texas from Liberia, two healthcare workers who cared for the index patient, and one medical aid worker who traveled to New York City from Guinea
 - **Index patient** – Symptoms developed on September 24, 2014 approximately four days after arrival, sought medical care at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas on September 26, was admitted to hospital on September 28, testing confirmed EVD on September 30, patient died October 8.
 - **TX Healthcare Worker, Case 2** – Cared for index patient, was self-monitoring and presented to hospital reporting low-grade fever, diagnosed with EVD on October 10, recovered and released from NIH Clinical Center October 24.
 - **TX Healthcare Worker, Case 3** – Cared for index patient, was self-monitoring and reported low-grade fever, diagnosed with EVD on October 15, currently receiving treatment at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta.
 - **NY Medical Aid Worker, Case 4** – Worked with Ebola patients in Guinea, was self-monitoring and reported fever, diagnosed with EVD on October 24, currently in isolation at Bellevue Hospital in New York City.

EVD Cases (United States)

- Four U.S. health workers and one journalist who were infected with Ebola virus in West Africa were transported to hospitals in the United States for care
- All the patients have recovered and have been released from the hospital after laboratory testing confirmed that they no longer have Ebola virus in their blood

Key Points

- ▶ The risk of transmission in our city is very low.
- ▶ HHSD is closely monitoring the situation and coordinating preparedness activities:
 - Working in concert with DSHS and CDC.
 - Conducting surveillance and monitoring reported disease
 - Providing area health care providers, hospitals, schools, higher education and others with situational updates, case definitions, infection control practices, lab submission procedures, protocols to report suspect cases
 - Providing updated information to the public through media interviews, website, social media.
 - Convening and consolidating community response
 - Monitoring case contacts and travelers returning from affected countries.

Questions?

