



Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)

Planning and Preparedness Update: Dec. 3, 2014

www.saskatoonhealthregion.ca/ebola

Status of Saskatoon Health Region's EVD Plan:

The EVD planning team continues to prepare for the rare possibility of treating an EVD patient:

- Process mapping of the patient's journey was completed in collaboration with the KPO. This exercise assisted with development of the standard work which supports the daily operation.
- Simulations to test EMS and patient flow processes are being planned and scheduled.
- PPE training continues. To date, 242 employees have undergone training. Employee training is nearly complete in the priority areas of SPH emergency, RUH emergency and SPH critical care.

Next Steps:

- We will work towards a regular schedule of simulations.
- Employee recruitment for the Region's EVD response team will continue. Employees or physicians interested in being part of the Region's EVD response team should contact Lisa.Williams@saskatoonhealthregion.
- Phase 2 modifications of the physical space for treatment of EVD patients at St. Paul's Hospital (SPH) will ensure the space can treat any patient infected with a Level 4 pathogen.

Key Messages for Sharing:

Standing messages:

- EVD does not spread easily from person to person. It is spread from contact with bodily fluids of a person who is sick with, or has died from the disease, or from exposure to contaminated objects, such as needles.
- There NEVER been a case of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in Canada. The introduction of EVD into Canada is possible but not likely and the risk to Canadians remains very low. Nevertheless, we want to be prepared.
- At Saskatoon Health Region EVD planning and preparedness is led by Deputy Medical Health Officer Dr. Johnmark Opondo and Director of Enterprise Risk Management Lori Frank. Planning efforts are focused on the most likely scenarios: (1) an ill traveler with signs and symptoms of EVD is first identified at Saskatoon Airport or enroute and (2) an individual returns from an affected country and presents at a health-care setting in Saskatoon Health Region with signs and symptoms of EVD.
- If a patient presents with fever, [follow the established protocol](#):
 - Ask if they have travelled out of country within the past 21 days, especially Africa.
 - Remain calm and properly isolate the patient.
 - [Properly don your personal protective equipment](#).
 - Call the Infectious Disease specialist at 306-655-1000 and the Medical Health Officer at 306-655-4620.
- EVD information, tools and resources can be found at www.saskatoonhealthregion.ca/ebola.

Questions? Contact the EVD planning Co-Leads:

- Contact Dr. Johnmark Opondo, Deputy Medical Health Officer and 306-655-4338 or Lori Frank, Director of Enterprise Risk Management, 306-655-7795