



# District Health Department No. 2

*Northeast Michigan's Community Health Department*

## EBOLA

### WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

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#### WHAT IS EBOLA HEMMORRHAGIC FEVER?

The Ebola hemorrhagic fever is a severe, often fatal disease that occurs in humans and non-human primates. It is caused by the Ebola virus and was first found in the Congo of Africa and has occurred periodically since.

#### WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF EBLOA HEMORRHAGIC FEVER?

The incubation period for Ebola hemorrhagic fever ranges from 2-21 days. The onset of the illness is abrupt and usually includes fever, headache, and muscle and joint aches. Also, sore throat, weakness, diarrhea and vomiting may occur. A red rash, red eyes, hiccups and internal and external bleeding may be seen in some patients with the Ebola hemorrhagic fever.

#### HOW IS EBOLA HEMORRHAGIC FEVER SPREAD?

Infections with Ebola are acute and there is no carrier state. Because of this, it is believed that the first individual becomes infected through contact with an animal that already has the disease. Once one individual has the disease, others become infected through blood and/or secretions of the infected person. Contact with things such as needles and other objects contaminated with the disease is another possible way for a person to become infected.

#### HOW IS EBOLA HEMMORRHAGIC FEVER TREATED?

There is no standard treatment for people with Ebola hemorrhagic fever. Patients receive supportive therapy in an effort to control complications related to the infection.

#### IS THERE A WAY TO PREVENT EBOLA HEMMORRHAGIC FEVER?

Prevention of the Ebola hemorrhagic fever is a challenge. Since the naturally occurring reservoir and location of the virus are unknown, there are few established primary prevention measures.

For more information on Ebola, please visit the Center's for Disease Control website at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) or call District Health Department #2 at 1-800-504-2650.