

Deep South Biosafety



Worker Training Program

**RISK MANAGEMENT:
FROM A SINGLE CASE
TO EVIDENCED BASED
IMPROVEMENTS**

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EBOLA

HIV

SARS

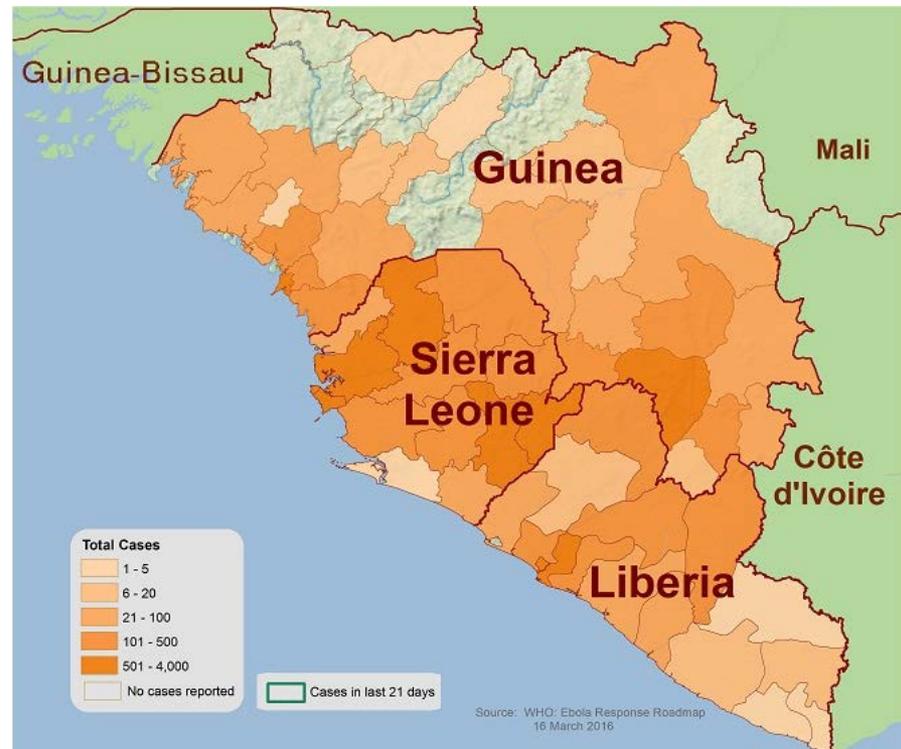
HBV

MERS

MALARIA

Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak 2014

- In 2014 West Africa experienced the largest outbreak of Ebola in history
 - 28,600+ cases
 - 11,325+ deaths



Ebola Virus Disease in the U.S.

September 30, 2014

CDC confirmed the first-travel associated case of Ebola diagnosed in the U.S. (passed on Oct. 8, 2014)

October 23, 2014

A medical aid worker who volunteered in Guinea was hospitalized in NYC with Ebola

July - September, 2014

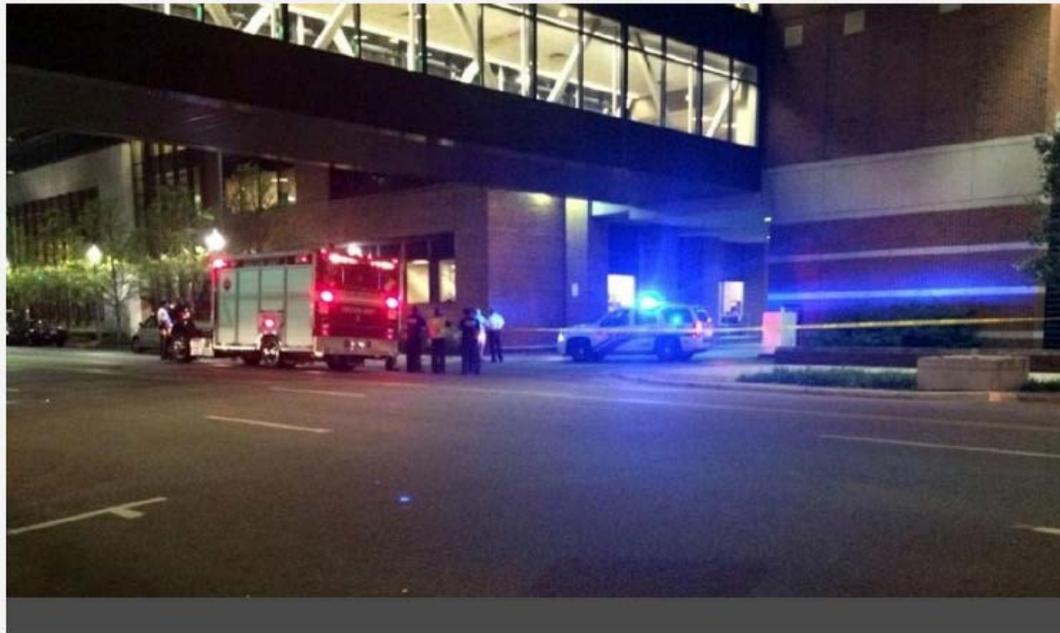
4 Americans who contracted Ebola in West Africa transported back to US for treatment

October 10 & 15, 2014

Two healthcare workers who cared for index patient tested positive for Ebola

Patient taken to UAB Hospital with Ebola-like symptoms; 8 others being monitored

BY | TUESDAY, AUGUST 4TH 2015



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3 photos

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TRENDING



Myster spread school



Traffic: County of \$3 m



Camel being h pickup Alabarr



Calhou accuse torture

Birmingham, Alabama (August 2015)

Lessons Learned

01 No matter how much you prepare, mistakes will be made

- Patient didn't follow directions
- Paramedic exposed to potential contamination
- Initial communication on an unsecured channel → media on scene at hospital and patient's home → loss of anonymity

02 Communicate early and with the same message

- Pre-scripted messages for press releases very useful
- Media relations (PIOs) from all involved entities need to work together & have cohesive message

144

UPDATE: No Ebola found in Birmingham patient, family members, firefighters



5.6k shares



Multiple Birmingham firefighters are being quarantined tonight after treating a patient with Ebola-like symptoms that was transported to UAB Hospital. (Tamika Moore/tmoore@al.com)

1 / 24

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Lessons Learned (cont.)

02 Communicate early and with the same message

- Gray area of what information can be shared with EMS providers once patient has been transferred
- Birmingham PIO shared this information with the media (breach of patient's private medical information)
- **Joint press release early (even if incomplete information). Better than saying nothing because in the void, someone will say something...**

03 Trust is key

- Long working relations between first receivers & Birmingham Fire
- Already had drilled patient transfer piece (respectful of knowledge and authority of ED and State EMS Medical Director)

Risk Management in Mississippi

- Primary focus to reduce risks during patient transfer from EMS to the hospital
- MSDH/UMMC partnered to develop comprehensive plan to address the monitoring of “Known Travelers” with CDC guidance and technical assistance
 - decrease risk to providers (EMS and Hospital)
 - Efficient use of training/equipment expenditures for both EMS and hospitals

AAR – Lessons Learned

- Plan exercised through MSDH/UMMC/UAB partnership.
- Formal review process and exercise with AAR/IP
 - Refinements made in PPE utilized
 - Healthcare staff training
 - Increased use of technology

Active Monitoring Period – 21 days



Use of iPADS in CDC identified known travelers “active” monitoring by Epidemiology RN at the MSDH district-level.

Initial Treatment of Suspected EVD

Increased use of telehealth technology to monitor patient status during treatment including:

- State of the art Telehealth portals
- Stethoscopes to reduce potential exposure to infectious disease



Use of Technology to Reduce Risk

- Use of Human Patient Simulators and simulation lab to teach providers how to care for patients in a PPE environment.

Use of Technology in Future

- Continue to increase usage of technology to improve further improve **patient-provider interactions** and **patient-family interactions** without increasing risks to non-exposed persons.
- Improved **educational opportunities** for students, interns and residents to participate in learning environment.

Questions

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