



**REGION 11  
CHICAGO EMS SYSTEM  
POLICY**

Title: Ebola Virus Disease – Viral Hemorrhagic Fever (EVD-VHF) Patient Destination
Section: Transportation
Approved: EMS Medical Directors Consortium
Effective: December 6, 2023

**EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE – VIRAL HEMORRHAGIC FEVER  
(EVD-VHF) PATIENT DESTINATION**

- I. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) issue specific guidance for screening, care and transport of patients who present with Ebola Viral Disease or Viral Hemorrhagic Fever (EVD-VHF) symptoms.
- II. Patients who are considered “high risk” for EVD-VHF **MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:**
  - A. Recent travel from a country with widespread EVD-VHF transmission, as noted by the CDC, IDPH and/or CDPH.

**AND**
  - B. At least one of the following symptoms:
    1. Fever
    2. Abdominal pain
    3. Diarrhea
    4. Vomiting
    5. Unusual bleeding (from the eyes, nose, gums)
    6. Muscle pain (myalgia)
    7. Headache
    8. Feeling weak or tired
- III. Any patient who meets BOTH of the above criteria for a suspect EVD-VHF should be transported to a hospital designated as a “Specialized Pathogen Treatment Center (SPTC)” for confirmatory testing ONLY after the proper infection control precautions are established.
- IV. For any patient with travel history and symptoms as above, EMS personnel should notify their EMS supervisor who will communicate with the Resource Hospital, RHCC, and CDPH to safely coordinate and plan transportation of the patient to a Specialized Pathogen Treatment Center.
- V. **Proper PPE use and training is critical to protect EMS personnel and prevent the spread of infection. Refer to the EMS Guidelines for Infection Control Policy for specific details on PPE, patient care and transport considerations, and ambulance decontamination.**
- VI. EMS personnel may directly contact the Base Station of the Specialized Pathogen Treatment Center with the positive screening criteria and pertinent patient information.
- VII. Any invasive procedure (i.e. glucometer, IV start, advanced airway) should not be performed unless required for patient stabilization.