

Date: October 20, 2022

To: EMS, Emergency Department and Urgent Care staff

From: Dr. Laura McDougall, Senior Medical Officer of Health

RE: Ebola Virus Disease Update

The risk of Ebola in Canada – and Alberta – remains extremely low. However, due to an evolving outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease in the country of Uganda located in East Central Africa, and out of an abundance of precaution, we are reminding frontline staff of the processes and guidelines in place to manage any suspect cases.

AHS continues to ensure the right supports are in place for our staff should a suspected case arise in our province, including the distribution of starter kits at 192 sites across the province containing personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies. Simulation kits that include Train the Trainer guidance are also being distributed. In addition, Ebola PPE supply carts at the receiving/designated sites are being reinstated at University of Alberta Hospital; Stollery Children's Hospital, South Health Campus & Alberta Children's Hospital.

Please contact the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) on-call immediately for any patients who have been to Uganda in the past 21 days and present with infectious symptoms, fever, or unexplained bleeding/bruising. They should be assessed for their risk of Ebola and the MOH can guide and support you through this process. No laboratory testing should be ordered, or specimens collected without authorization by the MOH.

AHS has a full suite of guidance documents for Ebola preparedness and response, available on Insite at <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/ipc/page10531.aspx#ebola>. Please review and familiarize yourself with these documents. These documents are under ongoing review, but should be considered useable at the current time.

Please ensure you are following the appropriate PPE precautions for blood borne pathogens [PPE Requirements for Suspect/Confirmed Viral Hemorrhagic Fever \(VHF\) \(Ebola\) \(albertahealthservices.ca\)](#).

Be assured that the risk of Ebola in Alberta remains extremely low. AHS continues to be proactive in managing possible risks. As a result of the Ebola activity in Uganda, we have established a Working Group to ensure we continue to be prepared, and we will provide frontline staff with the appropriate information they need. Additional information will be forthcoming regarding planning for Simulations/Tabletop exercises in the coming weeks.



For further questions or guidance, please contact the MOH in your Zone.

North Zone 1-800-732-8981

Edmonton Zone 780-433-3940

Central Zone 403-356-6430

Calgary Zone 403-264-5615

South Zone 403-388-6111