Occupational and Medical Surveillance: Emory's Experience with Ebola

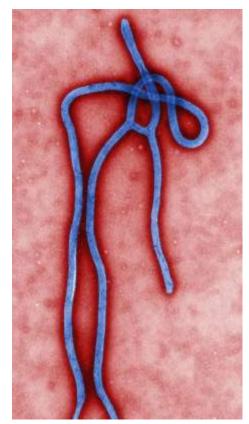
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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Background on Ebola

- Family Filoviridae
 - Two genera: marburgvirus and ebolavirus
 - Enveloped, negative, single-stranded RNA viruses
- Five species of Ebola viruses
 - Ebola (EBOV)
 - Sudan (SUDV)
 - Tai Forest (TAFV)
 - Bundibugyo (BDBV)
 - Reston (RESTV)
- Transmitted by contaminated body fluids
- Mortality from Ebola virus disease (EVD) historically has ranged from 40-88%



Cynthia Goldsmith/CDC

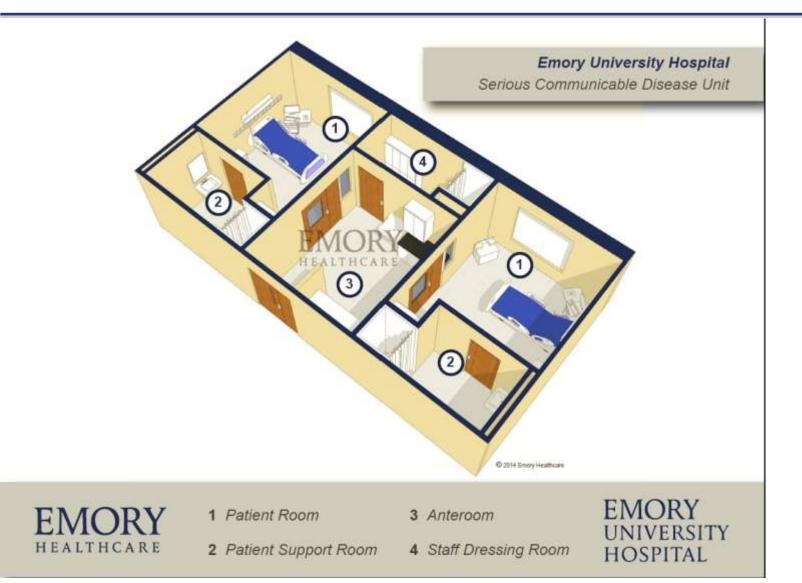


The Cases at Emory

- Late July, we were informed that two humanitarians from the US had become infected with EBOV in Liberia
- During the first week of August, both were transferred by air ambulance to our hospital, 3 days apart
 - 33 year old male physician, day 11 of illness at arrival
 - 59 year old female missionary, day 15 of illness at arrival

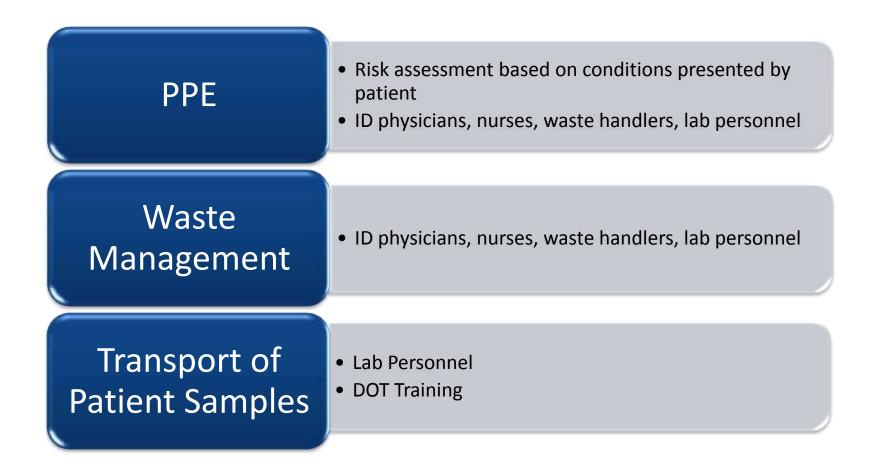


Serious Communicable Diseases Unit





Emergency Preparedness





Personal Protective Equipment

- Disposable Scrubs
- Tyvek Suit
- Double Gloves
- PAPR
- Booties







- Separate procedures for entering the anteroom and entering the patient room
- Nurses 8 hr shifts in patient room
- Spotters observing from the ante-room

- Waste Disposal
 - Chemical and Biological Indicators used for autoclave validation
 - Stericycle pick-up



Staff - Healthcare Providers (HCP)

- Direct HCPs
 - Physicians
 - Nurses
 - Lab Personnel
 - Waste Handlers
- Indirect HCPs
 - EHS staff
 - Security Personnel



EMORY

Staff requirements

- Team meeting everyday to review plans and protocols
 - Open forum for questions and concerns from any team member
- Only approved personnel allowed in isolation area
 - Log of everyone who entered room







Direct HCP Symptom Questionnaire

Requirements

- Health monitoring for all direct HCPs
- Temperature check
- Symptom check



Distribution & Accessibility

- Started as a word document
- Developed electronic version a few days later using iForm Builder
- Email sent to all direct HCPs
- Link to access electronic document
- Accessible from home, work, mobile device



Monitoring Staff

- All personnel are required to record the following into a online registry
 - Twice daily temperature (beginning and end of shift)
 - Symptom review (included area for explanation of symptoms)
 - Electronic Signature
- Duration?
 - Each day from the first day of contact with:
 - Patient
 - Lab specimens
 - Soiled laundry/linens/body fluids
 - 21 days after last shift in the unit

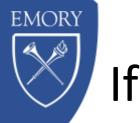




Monitoring Staff (cont'd)

- ~50 staff used the survey
- Occupational Health Staff reviewed each submission
- Information from iform downloaded into a central database
- Challenge- continuous recording of temperature
- Reminders to check temperature and symptoms were sent every other day





If Symptomatic...

 Symptomatic = >100°F temp or headache, joint/muscle aches, weakness, diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain, or lack of appetite

- Contact Occupational Injury Management for telephone triage and counselling
- **DO NOT LEAVE THE UNIT** until further directions are given from medical personnel



Exposure Procedure

- CDC's "Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Hospitalized Patients with Known or Suspected Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever in US Hospitals"
- If exposed (at Emory):
 - Stop working immediately and wash the affected area with soap and water
 - Mucous membranes should be irrigated with copious amounts of water or eyewash solution
 - Immediately contact Occupational Health for assessment
 - Complete incident report online (PeopleSoft) once medical assistance is provided



Contributors to this process development

- Paula Desroches (Occupational Injury Management)
- Emily Beck (Occupational Injury Management)
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Questions?

