



Summit County Public Health

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Ebola FAQ (Updated 10/17/14)

What if I attended the bridal shop Coming Attractions Bridal & Formal?

If you attended the bridal shop Coming Attractions Bridal & Formal, Inc. (located at on 1220 East Tallmadge Ave) **on Saturday October 11, 2014** between the hours of 12-3:30, please call the Summit County Ebola Information line at 330-926-3939 to be put in contact with an investigator.

Should the schools be shut down?

Summit County Public Health does not advocate for the closure of schools or the cancellation of events. The ill healthcare worker had no known visitation at any public or private grade school, secondary school or higher education institution.

What if I, or someone I know, was on Frontier Flight 1142* from Dallas to Cleveland on October 10th?

For those who traveled on Frontier flight 1010 from Dallas to Cleveland on October 10th please call the CDC information line at 1-800-CDC-Info for more specific information.

What if I, or someone I know, was on Frontier Flight 1143 Cleveland to Dallas?

For those who traveled on Frontier flight 1143 from Cleveland to Dallas please call the CDC information line at 1-800-CDC-Info for more specific information.

How does someone contract Ebola?

The virus is spread through direct contact (through broken skin or unprotected mucous membranes in, for example, the eyes, nose, or mouth) with the blood or body fluids such as, but not limited to, feces, saliva, urine, vomit, and semen of a person who is sick with Ebola, or with objects like needles that have been contaminated with the virus, or infected animals.

**Flight number corrected 10/17/14 12:47)*

How many Akron hospitals have contamination rooms / negative air flow rooms?

All hospitals have negative air flow rooms for the purpose of containing an infectious patient. All hospitals have been advised to complete an Ebola prep exercise. Hospitals will review infection control policies and procedures and incorporate plans for administrative, environmental, and communication measures, as well as personal protective equipment (PPE) and training and education. Hospitals will also define the individual work practices that will be required to detect the introduction of a patient with Ebola or other emerging infectious diseases, prevent spread, and manage the impact on patients, the hospital, and staff.

What about the water supply?

Ebola is not spread through water. The ill healthcare worker did not have any known contact with water supply sources. Please see http://www.scphoh.org/PDFS/PDF_Ebola/water%20release.pdf for more information about the safety of drinking water.

Is there concern about flushing the toilet?

There is no concern about flushing toilets. Flushing toilets is a basic hygienic practice that must be maintained.

Is the Cleveland-Hopkins airport safe?

There is no reason to be concerned that the airport is contaminated. Based on interviews, the ill healthcare worker may not have been contagious at the time of travel. If the healthcare worker was ill, nearly 48 hours has elapsed and there would no longer be concerns of viable virus on surfaces.

Are planes safe?

Any plane having transported a known infected person will be cleaned to very strict standards. Anyone flying should always practice good hygiene, covering mouth when sneezing or coughing, wash hands after using toilet facilities.

How long are surfaces contagious if the sick person touched or sat there?

Ebola is killed with hospital-grade disinfectants (such as household bleach). Ebola on dried on surfaces such as doorknobs and countertops can survive for several hours.

For Health Care Professionals

What if I suspect my patient has Ebola?

If a health care professional is concerned that a patient has signs or symptoms and meets the screening criteria for Ebola, the patient should be evaluated at the hospital. Before sending patient to hospital, the health care professional should contact the hospital to notify them that a potential case is coming for evaluation so the emergency department can put in place their policies for patient isolation and personal protective equipment for staff. Do not send the patient to the hospital without first notifying the emergency department or EMS if patient is transported.

What are the screening criteria for Ebola?

- Assess the patient for a fever (subjective or $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ / 38.0°C)
- Determine if the patient has symptoms compatible EVD such as headache, weakness, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain or hemorrhage
- Assess if the patient has a potential exposure from traveling to a country with widespread Ebola transmission* or having contact with an Ebola patient in the 21 days before illness onset

Please see the following website for additional information on screening.

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/checklist-patients-evaluated-us-evd.pdf>

What if my patient is not from Summit County?

Contact the board of health for the county in which the patient resides.