



Durham Region Health Department **FAX about...**

For Health Care Professionals



Viral Haemorrhagic Fever Including Ebola Virus

On September 20, 2022, Uganda declared an Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak and the causative agent is *Sudan ebolavirus*. There have also been multiple cases reported and confirmed in various districts including Bunyangabu, Kagadi, Mubende, Kygegwa and Kassanda.

Action requested

Be on alert for symptomatic individuals who have travelled to affected areas in Uganda within the past 21 days and may have been exposed to EVD (caused by *Sudan ebolavirus*). Transmission most commonly occurs from person to person by direct contact with infected blood and bodily fluids. Symptoms include fever, headache, rash (hemorrhagic or purpuric), sore throat, weakness, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and/or unexplained bleeding.

Testing

Public Health Ontario (PHO) has updated the [Viral Haemorrhagic Fever \(VHF\) including Ebola Virus Disease testing information sheet](#) (or search for "VHF" on the main PHOL website). **Prior to sample collection and shipment consult with PHO microbiologist.** A PHO Microbiologist is available through the PHO Customer Service Centre at 416-235-6556/1-877-604-4567, or after-hours 416-605-3113.

Additional precautions

In addition to Routine Practices, patients who present with suspected EVD should be placed on Droplet-Contact Precautions with a fit-tested, seal-checked N95 respirator (or equivalent or greater protection). Additional PPE may be recommended depending on symptoms of patient. Patient placement should be in a single room or an airborne isolation room, with a dedicated bathroom.

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905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



Reporting

Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers, including EVD, are reportable diseases of public health significance. To report suspect and confirmed cases of VHF, please call:

- Phone: 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 ext. 2996
- Confidential Fax: 905-666-6215
- After Hours: 905-576-9991 or 1-800-372-1104

The Diseases of Public Health Significance List and Notification Form can also be found on the Reportable Diseases [landing page](#) (or durham.ca/hcp, Forms, Reporting, Diseases of public health significance).

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