Ebola - Latest Update for General Practice

Date sent: Saturday 18 October 2014

Update 30.12.14

Please refer to the latest guidance as follows:
Supplementary Guidance Preparing for Ebola in Primary Care Frontpage
Supplementary Guidance Action for Practices
Supplementary Guidance Practical Patient Management
Supplementary Guidance Staff Protection
Supplementary Guidance Cleaning and Decontamination
Supplementary Guidance Screening People from an Affected Country

Update 24.11.14

The following link from the BMA provides the latest advice for managing the Ebola Virus (released 20.11.14): http://bma.org.uk/practical-support-at-work/gp-practices/service-provision/dealing-with-a-potential-ebola-virus-case

Update 22.10.14

Public Health England (PHE) has just published their updated their Ebola guidance on managing patients who require assessment in primary care. The GPC has had regular contact with PHE in the last week and have been involved in the update of this guidance.

Guidance for general practice

Email sent by Wessex LMCs, on Saturday, 18 Oct 2014 to all GPs and Practice Managers

Below is a copy of the email I have sent to all the staff in my practice

We probably have not had much hysteria locally about Ebola but it is occurring in other parts of the country.

The risk to us and our community remains small.

The geographical areas where there are serious concerns are countries in Central Africa namely:

- Liberia
- Guinea
- Sierra Leone

If a patient or relative phones in and reports they or a family member is unwell and has a
temperature we should ask:

1. Have they been abroad recently – if yes
2. Where was this, was it Africa? If yes
3. Which country –

See below:

**What to do for patients on the telephone**

Individuals that telephone the surgery and report that they are unwell and have visited an affected area in the past 21 days AND report a fever of >38°C or fever within the past 24 hours should be advised not to visit the surgery.

**What to do for a patient who presents to surgery in person**

Any patients that identify themselves to reception staff as being unwell and having visited a affected area in the past 21 days should not sit in the general waiting room once Ebola is considered a possibility.

These patients should be isolated in a side room and urgent clinical advice sought from a GP.

Ebola should be suspected in patients presenting to primary care services who have a fever of >38°C OR have a history of fever in the past 24 hours AND have recently visited any of the affected areas (as outlined above) within the previous 21 days.

Best wishes

Nigel

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**Related guidance and emails...**

**Ebola - Managing Patients Who Require Assessment for Ebola Virus Disease**
(PHE Update: 17 October 2014)

Please find below a link to Public Health England's latest guidance for managing patients who require assessment for Ebola Virus...

**Ebola - Additional information about Ebola Virus Disease**

Additional information about Ebola Virus Disease Ebola is a Filovirus, first recognised in 1976. The virus is believed to be zoonotic...

**Zika Guidance for Primary Care**

Update March 2016: The joint Zika guidance for primary care has been updated to reflect the new wording for travel recommendations for...
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