



Department  
of Health

JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner

JOHANNE E. MORNE, M.S.  
Executive Deputy Commissioner



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE  
Michelle Morse, MD, MPH  
Acting Health Commissioner

DATE: September 19, 2025

TO: Hospitals, Laboratories, Emergency Medicine, Critical Care, Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Adolescent Medicine, Internal Medicine, Infectious Disease, Infection Control Practitioners, Urgent Care, Primary Care Providers, Director of Nursing, Local Health Departments

FROM: New York State Department of Health, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC Health Department)

### HEALTH ADVISORY:

## Ebola Outbreak Caused by Zaire Ebolavirus in the Democratic Republic of Congo

### SUMMARY

- The [World Health Organization](#) and U.S. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) reported that the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) declared an outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) (Zaire strain) in the Kasai Province on September 4, 2025.
- In response, the New York State and New York City Health Departments recommend that healthcare providers:
  - Continue to screen all individuals with acute febrile illness for recent international travel.
  - Refer to the [Viral Hemorrhagic Fever Health Advisory](#) for detailed clinical guidance regarding triage, evaluation, and laboratory testing for people with suspected EVD.
  - Immediately report anyone with symptoms compatible with EVD who traveled to [affected areas in the DRC](#) in the last 21 days to their local health department.
  - Unless otherwise directed by the health department, provide routine testing and care for all people, regardless of recent travel to the DRC.

---

### CURRENT SITUATION

#### Outbreak summary:

- Health authorities in the DRC have declared an outbreak of EVD (Zaire strain), where 35 confirmed cases, 19 suspected cases, and 16 deaths, including four healthcare workers, have been reported as of September 14, 2025. The outbreak is occurring in the Bulape and Mweka Health Zones of the Kasai Province in the south-central part of the country.
- The DRC experienced its last Ebola outbreak in 2022 in the northwest province of Equateur and has reported a total of 16 outbreaks since 1976.

Response to the current outbreak:

- The World Health Organization (WHO) deployed a Rapid Response Team to Kasai Province to help with surveillance, case management, laboratory activities, and infection prevention and control in health care facilities.
- Provincial risk communication experts have been deployed to teach community members how to protect themselves.
- DRC has a stockpile of Ebola treatments as well as 2,000 doses of the Ervebo (VSV-EBOV) Ebola vaccine that will be deployed to the outbreak area.

## CLINICAL GUIDANCE FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

New York healthcare providers should:

- Obtain a detailed travel history from people with symptoms compatible with EVD.
  - Early "dry" symptoms may include fever, aches, pains, and fatigue, and later "wet" symptoms may include diarrhea, vomiting, and unexplained bleeding.
- Restrict access to the room in which a symptomatic person is isolated if clinical and epidemiologic risk factors support a suspicion of EVD. Minimize the number of staff who interact with the individual and keep a list of staff who do.
- Refer to the [Viral Hemorrhagic Fever Health Advisory](#) for more detailed clinical guidance regarding triage, evaluation, and laboratory testing for people with suspected EVD.
  - Work with the health department to carry out the guidance described in this document.
  - The health department will also help determine whether specimens need to be submitted to the public health laboratory for EVD testing.
- Immediately report anyone with symptoms compatible with EVD and travel to [affected areas in the DRC](#) in the last 21 days to the health department by calling the following phone number(s):
  - For people residing in New York City (NYC):
    - NYC Health Department's Provider Access Line at 866-692-3641
  - For people residing outside NYC:
    - Local health department (LHD) at the phone number found [here](#); if unable to reach the LHD where the person resides, contact the New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, at 518-473-4439 during business hours or 866-881-2809 evenings, weekends, and holidays
- Unless otherwise directed by the health department, do not delay routine clinical laboratory testing, including for suspected infectious diseases (e.g., malaria), and continue to provide routine standard of care for all people (e.g., bathing, appropriate infection control precautions), regardless of recent travel to the DRC, in accordance with [NYS/NYC guidance](#).
- Conduct exercises in managing the encounter and care of a person with EVD at least every 12 months. These exercises should review situations that are reasonably likely to occur at the healthcare facility, considering such factors as whether a healthcare facility has been designed as a Special Pathogen Treatment Center.
- Ensure contact information for staff and other facilities and health departments are kept up to date.

For more information:

- [CDC: Ebola Outbreak in the DRC: Current Situation](#)
- [Health Advisory: Viral Hemorrhagic Fever](#)
- [National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Center: DRC Ebola Outbreak](#)
- [NYC Health Department: Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers](#)
- [NYS Ebola Healthcare Provider Information](#)
- [NYS/NYC Guidance for Laboratory Testing and Management of Persons-Under-Investigation for Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers in Non-Designated Hospitals](#)
- [NYS Global Health Update Report](#)
- [WHO: Ebola Virus Disease in the Democratic Republic of Congo](#)
- [WHO: Extraordinary Meeting of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization on Ebola Vaccination](#)