

Date: October 15, 2014

Ebola Preparedness SITREP #2

**Metro Region Emergency Medical Services Multi-agency Coordination Center
(EMSMACC)**

UPDATE:

1. Most EMS agencies have responded to the SITREP questionnaire; all metro EMS medical directors are actively involved in the Ebola preparedness activities with their responder services. The Metro Region EMS System (MREMSS) is collaborating with the healthcare community in preparedness efforts.
2. All agencies are keeping the EMS responders informed on the Ebola virus situation by either daily email or electronic posting or physically sharing daily updates from various vetted sources such as the CDC, MDH, or if hospital based, from their own infectious disease specialists as well. **(no change or update)**
3. Allina and Regions EMS each have produced educational videos for their responder groups.

From Allina EMS (Dr. Satterlee): <http://bcove.me/jpoys517>

From Regions EMS (Dr. Burnett):

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FDGB82iUYY&feature=youtu.be&list=UUsCGIIFUja5N2Aab640oAQ>

4. All agencies report that they are (or are beginning to) reviewing, updating, educating, and practicing with personnel the proper donning/doffing of recommended PPE for this outbreak. Many are currently engaged in yearly EMS skill updates and use this opportunity to engage staff in the aforementioned information sharing and education/skill trainings. **(no change or update)**
5. Many PSAPs have expanded their call screening protocols to include ILI symptoms and international travel questioning. The Metro 911 TOC meets tomorrow and the PSAP managers will be briefed by Cynthia Hickman, MDH Epidemiologist. Attached to the accompanying email are two call-taker resources from the MECC.
6. Many more agencies are reporting building their own 'bad-bug-PPE' kits and/or purchasing respiratory and splash/fluid resistant PPE caches. PLEASE PASS ON ANY SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES.
7. Multiple planning and preparation conference calls are taking place among the healthcare and emergency management agencies. Key points will be included in future updates.
8. Lastly, The Metro Region EMS System (MREMSS) has a cache (limited numbers) of 'bad-bug-kits' available to EMS transport agencies in the region. Receiving agencies must sign for and agree to replenish the cache.

10/14/2014:

MDH posted these resources for EMS personnel regarding Ebola planning:

- a. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention “Interim Guidance for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems and 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) for Management of Patients with Known or Suspected Ebola Virus Disease in the United States”
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/interim-guidance-emergency-medical-services-systems-911-public-safety-answering-points-management-patients-known-suspected-united-states.html>
A number of people have asked MDH about whether PSAPs should do screening of callers. The guidance listed above addresses this issue under the “Key Points” section.
- b. Because we MDH has received many questions about procedures and products for cleaning and disinfection, included is the Occupational Safety and Health Administration fact sheet on “Cleaning and Decontamination of Ebola on Surfaces” https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA_FS-3756.pdf This fact sheet includes a link to the listing of EPA-Registered Disinfectants <http://www.epa.gov/oppad001/chemregindex.htm> ; select List G (*Norovirus*) for products that are effective against Ebola.
- c. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response “Detailed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Checklist for Ebola Preparedness” <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ems-checklist-ebola-preparedness.pdf>

You are encouraged to check the CDC and MDH Ebola websites frequently for updated information:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/>

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/vhf/index.html>