

EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE (EVD)

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ABSTRACT

Ebola virus disease (EVD), often known as Ebola hemorrhagic fever, is a rare but dangerous and often fatal human infection. The virus is transmitted from animals to humans, where it spreads throughout the population. Humans and nonhuman primates are both affected by the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). The majority of EVD viruses are found in Sub-Saharan Africa. EVD can be contracted through direct contact with an infected animal (bat or nonhuman monkey) or a sick or deceased person who has been infected with the Ebola virus.

KEYWORDS: Ebola virus, PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), Ebola hemorrhagic fever.

INTRODUCTION

Ebola is a rare but deadly virus that causes fever, body aches, diarrhoea, and internal and external bleeding in certain cases. When the virus spreads throughout the body, it damages the immune system and organs. The number of blood-clotting cells falls as a result. As a result, severe, uncontrollable bleeding develops. The disease was previously known as Ebola hemorrhagic fever, but it is now known as Ebola virus. It kills up to 90% of individuals who become infected with it.

EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE: WHAT IS IT AND HOW DOES IT AFFECT YOU?

The Ebola virus causes a sickness that is conveyed from animals to humans by direct contact with an infected person's or animal's bodily fluids.

EBOLA VIRUS HISTORY: Ebola first appeared on August 26, 1976, in Yambuku, a town in northern Zaire. With a high temperature, he went to the doctor and was given a quinine shot, which is effective against malaria. A week later, he suffered from violent vomiting, bloody diarrhoea, difficulties breathing, and nose, mouth, and anus bleeding.

- He died 14 days after the onset of his symptoms.
- He started an epidemic that killed 280 of the 318 persons who got sick (88 percent).
- Natural Reservoir—unknown at this time, however a local bat population could be present.

- The Sudan Ebola Virus (SEBOV) and the Zaire Ebola Virus (ZEBOV) were identified as two distinct species in 1976. (SEBOV)

HOW IS THE EBOLA VIRUS TRANSMITTED?

- Contact with bodily fluids.
- Injections that have not been properly sterilised.
- Skin piercing devices used by an infected person.
- Eating bush meats such as monkeys, chimps, bats, and dead animals
- Consumption of fruits that have been partially consumed by bats or other wild animals (bat meat).
- Direct intimate contact with an Ebola patient who has died.

When an Ebola patient dies, their body produces virus-infected fluids, making them extremely contagious. As a result, no one should come into touch with the body without wearing safety equipment.

EBOLA VIRUS SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- Fever
- Bloody diarrhea
- Bleeding through the nose and urine
- Vomiting blood
- Muscle and joint pain
- A rash on the skin

GO TO A MEDICAL CENTER IMMEDIATELY IF
You have a sudden fever, diarrhoea, or vomiting, or you have recently come into direct touch with an infected person's wounds or bodily fluids.

IF SOMEONE HAS EBOLA, WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?

1. Proper treatment
2. When caring for an infected person, personal protective equipment (PPE) should be worn
3. Disinfection of old clothing and utensils

RISK: (i) Ebola patients are contagious, and everyone who comes into direct contact with their bodies is at risk of contracting the disease. (ii) Handling should be limited to a bare minimum, and protective clothes should be worn at all times.

Incubation period: 2-21 days.

Diagnosis: Blood test

Treatment: There is no cure for Ebola fever.

1. Total isolation / Quarantine.
2. Intensive care treatment
3. The only available treatments are those meant to help to ease symptoms.

These may include:

- ✓ Oxygen therapy
- ✓ Intravenous fluids
- ✓ Blood transfusions
- ✓ Medications to treat shock
- ✓ Pain medications.

THE GOVERNMENT'S MEASURES TO PREVENT DISEASE SPREAD INCLUDE

1. Travelers from affected countries will be subjected to extensive scrutiny.
2. Passengers from or transiting through the afflicted countries must self-report when going through immigration.
3. Designated facilities at airports and ports to manage passengers with sickness symptoms.
4. States are encouraged to establish nodal offices and hospitals with isolation rooms, as well as stockpile personal protective equipment.
5. The Indian Medical Association has been enlisted to provide doctors with training in diagnostic and treatment methods.

PREVENTION

1. Anyone suspected of dying from Ebola should seek medical attention promptly, avoid washing the body, and bury it as soon as possible.
2. Wash your hands with soap and warm water after handling a patient or the body of someone who has died of Ebola.
3. Meats should be avoided at all costs.
4. Sharp objects, such as needles or razor blades, should never be exchanged.

5. Disinfect probable Ebola patients' clothing and bedding with bleach or soap.
6. Avoid eating fruits that have been partially eaten by bats or other wild animals (Bat Mot).

CONCLUSION

The virus is spread through direct contact with bodily fluids, such as blood from infected humans or animals. Spreads by body fluids of an infected person.

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