

Questions & Answers on Ebola Virus Disease

Has Yale-New Haven Hospital had an Ebola patient?

Late Wednesday evening, Oct. 15, Yale-New Haven Hospital admitted a patient who met the threshold to be monitored for Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). The hospital is working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health to have the patient tested for EVD. The hospital is currently overseeing operations related to the monitoring and care of the patient.

How has Yale-New Haven Hospital been preparing for the Ebola virus?

The hospital has been actively monitoring the Ebola virus situation and has procedures in place to detect and isolate any patient showing symptoms of the disease. Yale-New Haven has advanced equipment and facilities and a staff well trained to treat any patient with Ebola, and holds regular drills to address situations such as infectious disease outbreaks.

Should I stay away from the hospital or my doctor's office to avoid getting Ebola?

Very few people are at risk of contracting Ebola. It is transmitted only by direct contact with the blood or body fluids of an infected patient showing active symptoms (fever over 101.5°F, severe headache, muscle pain, weakness, diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain, unexplained bleeding or bruising). Patients, families and visitors should continue to come to the hospital and their doctors' offices for care without fear of being exposed to Ebola virus.

How can Yale-New Haven Hospital protect patients, visitors and staff from Ebola?

Yale-New Haven Hospital employs protection measures even greater than those recommended by the CDC. If a patient with Ebola symptoms comes to the hospital, he or she will be isolated from other patients and cared for in a special isolation room. Staff caring for patients with infectious diseases like Ebola wear protective gear, such as masks, face shields, gloves, protective gowns or suits and other equipment.

Where can I get more information about Ebola?

If you have questions about Ebola, talk with your doctor. More information on Ebola is available from the CDC: www.cdc.gov