
 **National Nurses United**

---

**Ebola 2014:  
What Nurses Need and Why**

 National Nurses United © National Nurses United 2014

---

---

---

---

---


---


---

---

**Personal Protective Equipment**

- Full-body hazmat suits that leave no skin exposed, meet or exceed ASTM F1670 standard for blood penetration and ASTM F1671 standard for viral penetration, and are impervious to body fluids
- Powered air purifying respirators (PAPR) with a high efficiency (HEPA) filter and assigned protection factor (APF) of at least 50
- Hands-On Interactive Training on Proper Donning and Doffing.



 National Nurses United © National Nurses United 2014

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

**High Mortality Rate and No Known Cure**

- Ebola has a fatality rate of 60-90%
- There are no market-approved drugs or vaccine available for treatment of Ebola
- The standard treatment is limited to supportive therapy

 National Nurses United © National Nurses United 2014

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### The Precautionary Principle

Lacking scientific consensus that a proposed action, policy, or act is not harmful -- particularly if that harm has the potential to be catastrophic -- such action, policy, or act should not be implemented and the maximum safeguards should be pursued.



Photo: National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Healthcare Workers at Highest Risk

- CDC: "Healthcare providers caring for Ebola patients and the family and friends in close contact with Ebola patients are at the highest risk of getting sick because they may come in contact with the blood or body fluids of sick patients."



Nina Pham, Texas RN



Photo: National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Healthcare Workers at Highest Risk

- Nurses spend more time with patients than other healthcare workers.
- Nurses tasked with keeping patient care area clean to limit number of workers exposed



Amber Vinson, Texas RN



Photo: National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Ebola Signs and Symptoms**

- Fever
- Headache
- Joint and Muscle Aches
- Weakness
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Stomach Pain
- Lack of Appetite

 National Nurses United © 2014 National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

**Experts are speaking out:**

- Dr. C.J. Peters, who battled a 1989 outbreak of the virus among research monkeys housed in Virginia and who later led the CDC's most far-reaching study of Ebola's transmissibility in humans, said he would not rule out the possibility that it spreads through the air in tight quarters.
- "We just don't have the data to exclude it," said Peters, who continues to research viral diseases at the University of Texas in Galveston.

 National Nurses United © 2014 National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

**Experts are speaking out:**

- "We know for a fact that the virus occurs in sputum and no one has ever done a study [disproving that] coughing or sneezing is a viable means of transmitting; unqualified assurances that Ebola is not spread through the air are "misleading." Charles L. Bailey, Director of George Mason University Biocontainment Lab

 National Nurses United © 2014 National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Hospital Ebola Preparedness:

- As of November 3, 2014 more than 3,000 RNs at more than 1,000 facilities in all 50 states and Washington, D.C., have responded to a NNU national survey regarding Ebola and Ebola preparedness.
- 84 percent said their hospital had yet to provide adequate education about the deadly virus or a forum in which they could interact and ask questions about it.



© 2014 National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Hospital Ebola Preparedness:

- 44 percent said their hospital had inadequate supplies of eye protection such as face shields or side shields with goggles for daily use on their floor or in their unit, another 46 percent said there were insufficient supplies of fluid-resistant or impermeable gowns.
- Only 8 percent said their facility had plans to outfit isolation with plastic-covered mattresses and pillows or discard all linens after use on Ebola patients. 41 percent said there were no plans and 51 percent did not know.



© 2014 National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

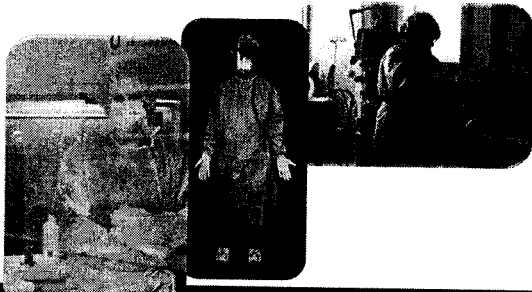
---

---

---

---

### Permissive "guidelines" can kill



© 2014 National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Multiple Choice is not a standard**

**CDC** What CDC says hospitals get to choose

**WHAT HOSPITALS CHOOSE**

**WHAT RNs NEED**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE IS NOT A STANDARD**

National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Nurses Need Optimal Protection**

Ebola has:

- No proven pre- or post-exposure treatment modalities
- A high fatality rate
- Unclear modes of transmission
- Potential for high output of contagious fluids

National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Aerosol Transmission Possible**

"As long as inhalation of aerosols is a possible mode of transmission for specific pathogens, the risk for such transmission exists and it should be acknowledged that health care providers could become infected by this route."

Brousseau, L. M., & Harriman, K. H. (2011)

National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

**Materials, seams, zippers, and other closures must protect against body fluids and viral penetration**



**NU** National Nurses United

© 2014 National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

**Personal Protective Equipment**

- ▶ Full-body hazmat suits that leave no skin exposed, meet or exceed ASTM F1670 standard for blood penetration and ASTM F1671 standard for viral penetration, and are impervious to body fluids as follows:
  - Single-use (disposable) coverall with integrated socks
  - Full PAPR hood
  - All seams, zippers, and other closures shall also meet or exceed ASTM F1670 standard for blood penetration and ASTM F1671 standard for viral penetration and be impervious to body fluids
- ▶ Powered air purifying respirators (PAPR) with a high efficiency (HEPA) filter and assigned protection factor (APF) of at least 50
- ▶ Hands-On Interactive Training on Proper Donning and Doffing.



**NU** National Nurses United

© 2014 National Nurses United

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---