

Ebola

Idaho Ebola Preparedness Weekly Update



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & WELFARE

For the Week of December 1 through 5, 2014

Idaho public health officials are closely monitoring Ebola activity worldwide, while simultaneously preparing for a possible suspect or confirmed case of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in Idaho. We will post weekly updates at www.ebola.idaho.gov every Friday or Monday until further notice.

Current Worldwide 2014 Ebola Outbreak Information

As of December 2, 2014

Total cases: 17,290

Total laboratory-confirmed cases: 10,825

Total deaths: 6,128

Case Counts in Countries with Widespread Transmission – Reported as of December 2, 2014

Guinea	2186	1949	1349
Liberia	7650	2805	3155
Sierra Leone	7420	6039	1609
Total	17,256	10,793	6,113

Case Counts in the United States with Localized Transmission – Reported as of November 23, 2014

Idaho	0	0	0
All Other States	4	4	1
Total	4	4	1

Source: www.cdc.gov/Ebola

Highlights of Ebola Preparedness Activities in Idaho

For the week of December 1 through 5, the following activities took place in Idaho:

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare	
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 12/1/2014, Dr. Hahn and Elke Shaw-Tulloch met with a hospital administrator regarding the progression of state plans for Ebola preparedness. A link on Ebola specific first responder materials from Washington EMS was emailed to all licensed Idaho EMS providers. Dr. Hahn presented at a hospital in Nampa on Ebola including Idaho-specific preparations. The presentation was transmitted to other hospitals as well. Approximately 100 people were in attendance along with two additional Southwest District Health (SWDH) epidemiologists. Dr. Hahn met with the Division of Public Health Deputy Attorney General to discuss legal authorities and restrictions regarding naming of individuals who are under active monitoring for Ebola symptoms.

Panhandle Health District – PHD1	
Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panhandle Health District staff met with counter parts at Spokane Regional Health District to continue discussions on cross-border planning for Ebola preparedness and response. The staff attended the Boundary County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and the Kootenai County Office of Emergency Management Council Meeting and gave an update on the Panhandle Health District's preparations for Ebola monitoring. Participated in the weekly conference call for Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) and public health district (PHD) directors.
Exercises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training was provided for PHD staff who has volunteered to be monitors for those who are returning to North Idaho from Guinea, Liberia, Mali and Sierra Leone. The process for monitoring and proper donning and doffing of gloves was presented and practiced.
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panhandle Health District situation report (SitRep) was issued to key stakeholders on 11/14/2014. On 11/21/2014, a public health update was issued district wide. The Panhandle Health District has kept regular contact with Region 1 Healthcare Coalition (HCC), including hospitals, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agencies and emergency managers throughout the district, providing them the latest guidance from Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and sharing best practices.
Other Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public health updates are being distributed weekly to those interested in receiving the most current Ebola information.

Public Health – Idaho North Central District – PHD 2	
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forwarding appropriate information to stakeholders through email.

Southwest Health District – PHD3	
Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southwest District Health (SWDH) Epi staff participated in a presentation on 12/3/2014 at a local hospital with Dr. Hahn and approximately 30-40 other participants. Discussion points included: current outbreak status, cases in the U.S., and what Idaho public health agencies are planning or doing to prepare for or respond to the outbreak. Public health preparedness staff continued discussions with local restoration companies to develop memorandum of understandings (MOUs) or agreements in place within a short period. The agency director attended the weekly IDHW/district director conference call. On 12/2/2014, public health preparedness (PHP) staff had contact with a local funeral chapel owner concerning a possible MOU for a mass fatality incident, concerning how they would address Ebola fatalities.
Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southwest District Health PHP staff provided an overview of the strategic national stockpile (SNS) hospital requestor process to hospital management staff. Public health district 3 has finalized the Ebola response plan and has set training dates for 12/16 for front line staff and Ebola response team members.

Central District Health Department – PHD4

Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday morning weekly update and review of activities related directly to Ebola. Facilitate discussion with local partners concerning Ebola response protocols.
Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicable disease program staff presented training on the current Ebola monitoring at the District 3 and District 4 joint hospital coalition meeting.
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Epi staff met with staff from the International Rescue Committee (IRC), a local refugee resettlement agency. Information was provided and questions were answered on how refugees can avoid stigmatization.

Southeastern Idaho Public Health – PHD6

Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended HPP quarterly conference call and discussed national funding for Ebola response.
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posted Ebola update PowerPoint presentation to coalition website. Forwarded CDC guidance for 35 <i>Treatment Hospitals</i>, <i>National Library of Medicine Ebola Webinar Announcements</i>, and <i>Ebola Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Level Summary</i> to healthcare partners.
Other Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have not received any phone calls from the public requesting Ebola information.

Eastern Idaho Public Health District – PHD7

Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated a meeting between hospitals, EMS, healthcare facilities, Dr. Hahn and IDHW addressing concerns regarding Ebola response.
Exercises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in a table top exercise with a local county during a local emergency planning committee (LEPC) meeting. The exercise addressed how the local county would respond to a possible Ebola patient.
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued to update website and Facebook. Continuously distributed updates to the Healthcare Coalition as they became available.