



## Public Health Advisory

10/09/2024

### First Marburg Virus Disease (MVD) Outbreak in the Republic of Rwanda

#### SITUATIONAL AWARENESS SUMMARY

- **Situation:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued an urgent health advisory to notify clinicians about the first confirmed outbreak of Marburg virus disease (MVD) in the Republic of Rwanda. **MVD** is a rare but severe **viral hemorrhagic fever** caused by Marburg virus, with a high fatality rate.
- As of October 6, 2024, Rwanda has reported 49 confirmed cases and 12 deaths (24% case fatality rate), including 19 cases among healthcare workers.
- No cases of MVD have been reported in the United States to date.
- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is supporting international response efforts, as well as preparedness within the United States.

#### Recommendations for Providers:

##### ✓ **Screen for Marburg Virus Disease (MVD) Risk:**

###### • **Key Exposure Risk Factors:**

- Recent travel to Rwanda (within the past 21 days).
- Contact with or care for individuals suspected or confirmed to have MVD.
- Attendance at funerals or participation in burial rituals.
- Visits to healthcare facilities or traditional healers in Rwanda.
- Contact with bats, non-human primates, or visits to caves/mines.

###### • **Clinical Signs and Symptoms to Monitor:**

- **8-10 days post-exposure:** Fever, chills, muscle aches (myalgia), and fatigue.
- **4-5 days after symptom onset:** Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and watery diarrhea.
- **Bleeding manifestations** are observed in approximately 40% of patients and are not universal.

##### ✓ **Isolate and Manage Suspected Cases**

- Promptly isolate patients who have symptoms consistent with MVD and relevant exposure history.
  - i. Continue isolation until MVD is ruled out by laboratory testing.
  - ii. Coordinate testing and isolation procedures with Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) at 702-759-1300.

##### ✓ **Rule Out Common Infections:**

- Consider, test, and treat for other common infections such as malaria, COVID-19, and influenza, which may co-occur with MVD.
- **Travel to Rwanda should not delay or defer standard patient care.**

##### ✓ **Healthcare Worker Guidance:**

- **Exclusion from work:** Healthcare personnel who have returned from Rwanda should be excluded from working in U.S. healthcare settings (including outpatient facilities and traditional healer settings) for 21 days from the last day they were in a healthcare facility in Rwanda.
- Monitor for MVD symptoms during this period.
- CDC will update these guidelines as the outbreak evolves.

**Report Immediately:** If MVD is suspected, notify SNHD's Disease Surveillance and Control team immediately at (702) 759-1300 to initiate rapid public health actions.

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**Health Alert:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention

**Health Advisory:** provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

**Health Update:** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action

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