



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department of Public Health

Contact: Buck Wilson, Director

Telephone: 910-433-3705

E-mail: bwilson@co.cumberland.nc.us

Health Department Provides Ebola Information

FAYETTEVILLE, NC - On Sept. 30, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirmed the first travel-associated case of Ebola to be diagnosed in the United States. According to the CDC, Ebola currently poses no substantial risk to the U.S. general population. Individuals who are considered at high risk for contracting Ebola are those who recently traveled to an Ebola affected country and had direct contact with blood or body fluids of someone sick with Ebola.

"The Cumberland County Department of Public Health is actively preparing to respond to Ebola by providing information to local medical providers and Cape Fear Valley Health System to be able to appropriately assess patients who present with Ebola symptoms and recently traveled to Ebola affected countries," said Cumberland County Public Health Director Buck Wilson.

"While the Health Department is actively preparing to respond, it is important to remember that there are no confirmed or suspected cases of Ebola in North Carolina," Wilson said.

According to the CDC website and Ebola Fact Sheet at cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ebola-factsheet.pdf:

*Some of the symptoms of Ebola include fever (higher than 101.5°F) and symptoms like severe headache, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain, or unexplained bleeding or bruising. However, it is important to note, a person infected with Ebola is **not** contagious until symptoms appear. Ebola is spread through **direct contact** with blood and body fluids (like urine, feces, saliva, vomit, sweat, and semen) of a person who is sick with Ebola and with objects (like needles) that have been contaminated with the blood or body fluids of a person sick with Ebola. Ebola is **not** spread through the air, water, or food.*

*To protect yourself from Ebola, **do** wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer; **do not** touch the blood or body fluids (like urine, feces, saliva, vomit, sweat, and semen) of people who are sick; **do not** handle items that may have come in contact with a sick person's blood or body fluids, like clothes, bedding, needles, or medical equipment; **do not** touch the body of someone who has died of Ebola.*

Wilson encourages Cumberland County residents who recently traveled to an Ebola affected country and are displaying symptoms of illness, to see their primary care physician or call the Department of Public Health at 910-433-3837. It is important that if you have symptoms of illness, you notify your primary care physician prior to your arrival so that you can be assessed quickly and avoid the waiting room and risk of exposing other patients.

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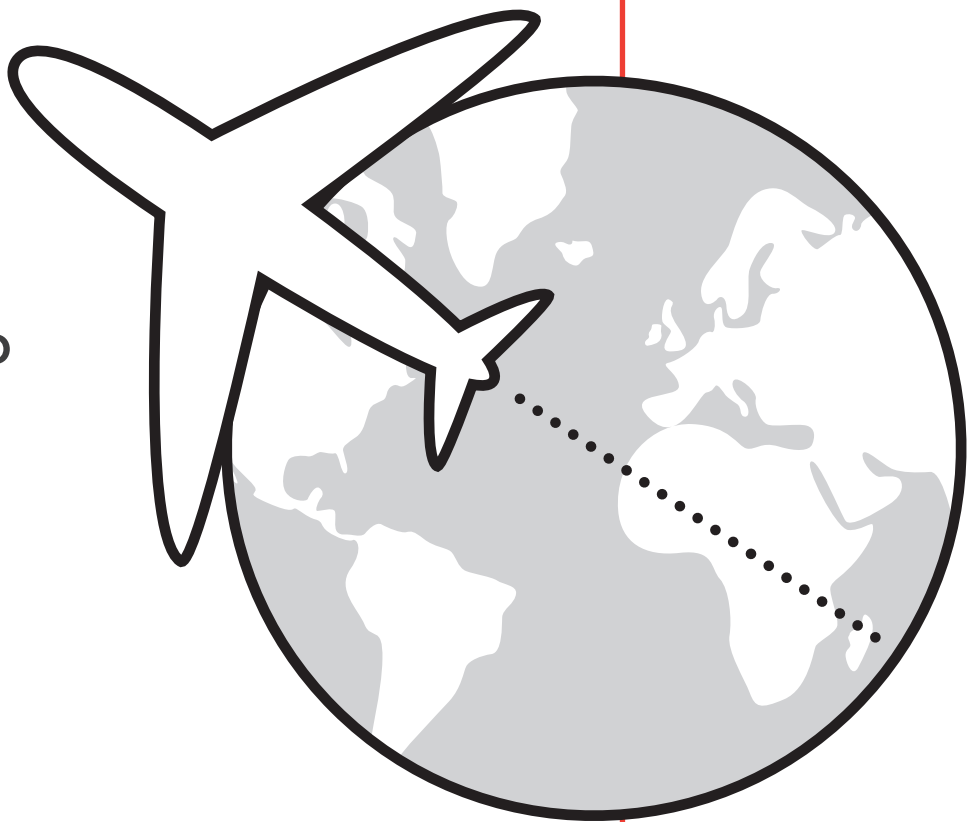
For additional information on Ebola, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/>.

If you would like more information about the Cumberland County Department of Public Health's programs and services, health-related data, or community resources, please call 910-433-3600 or visit with someone at the information desk, or visit our website at co.cumberland.nc.us/health.aspx#. Comments are welcome and can be submitted on our website at co.cumberland.nc.us/health/comments_form.aspx. The Health Department is located at 1235 Ramsey St. in Fayetteville.

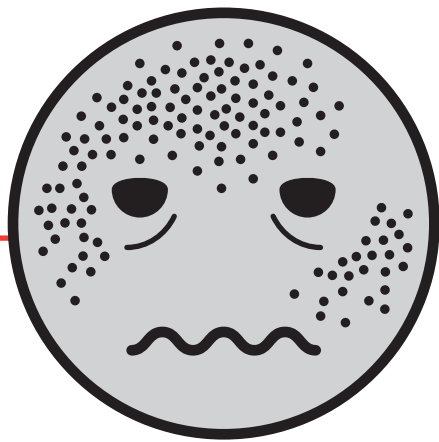
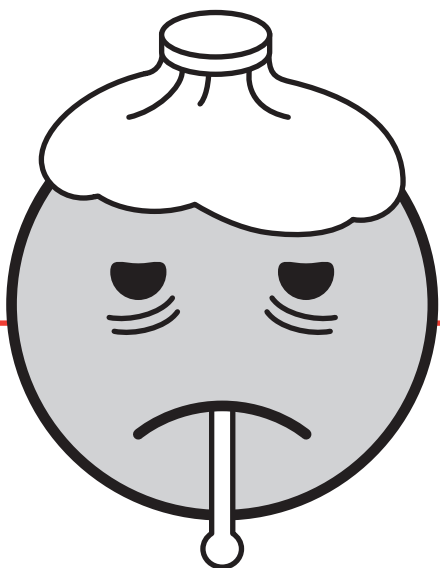
ATTENTION

IF YOU

recently **traveled internationally** or had close contact with someone who recently traveled internationally and was ill,



AND YOU HAVE



fever, cough, trouble breathing, rash, vomiting or diarrhea,

CONTACT YOUR DOCTOR OR HEALTH DEPARTMENT!