



# **Texas Ebola Treatment Centers and Assessment Hospitals**

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**Task Force on Infectious Disease  
Preparedness and Response**

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**TEXAS**  
Health and Human  
Services

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Texas Department of State  
Health Services



# Presentation Outline

1. History of CDC Recommendations
  - CDC Definitions
2. Limitations of the Current Ebola Situation
3. Current Texas Recommendations
  - Identify, Isolate, Inform
  - How to Request Ebola Testing
4. Texas Ebola Treatment Centers (ETCs)
  - Steps on How to Transfer a Patient to One of Our Treatment Centers
5. Closing Thoughts



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10/3/2018



- Initiated screening incoming travelers from the 3 West African countries with ongoing Ebola outbreaks.
  - Screenings done 5 major international U.S airports
  - Traveler information was shared with states to monitor individuals for 21 days
- Created a tiered system to handle Ebola across the U.S.
  1. Front-line healthcare facilities
  2. Assessment hospitals
  3. Ebola treatment centers



- **Front-line healthcare facilities** – responsible for identifying/isolating patients with the possible of signs and symptoms of Ebola and then transferring the patient to an assessment hospital
- **Assessment hospitals** – responsible for the evaluation and management of the patient until Ebola diagnosis is confirmed or ruled out.
- **Ebola treatment centers** – responsible for receiving and treating a patient with Ebola.

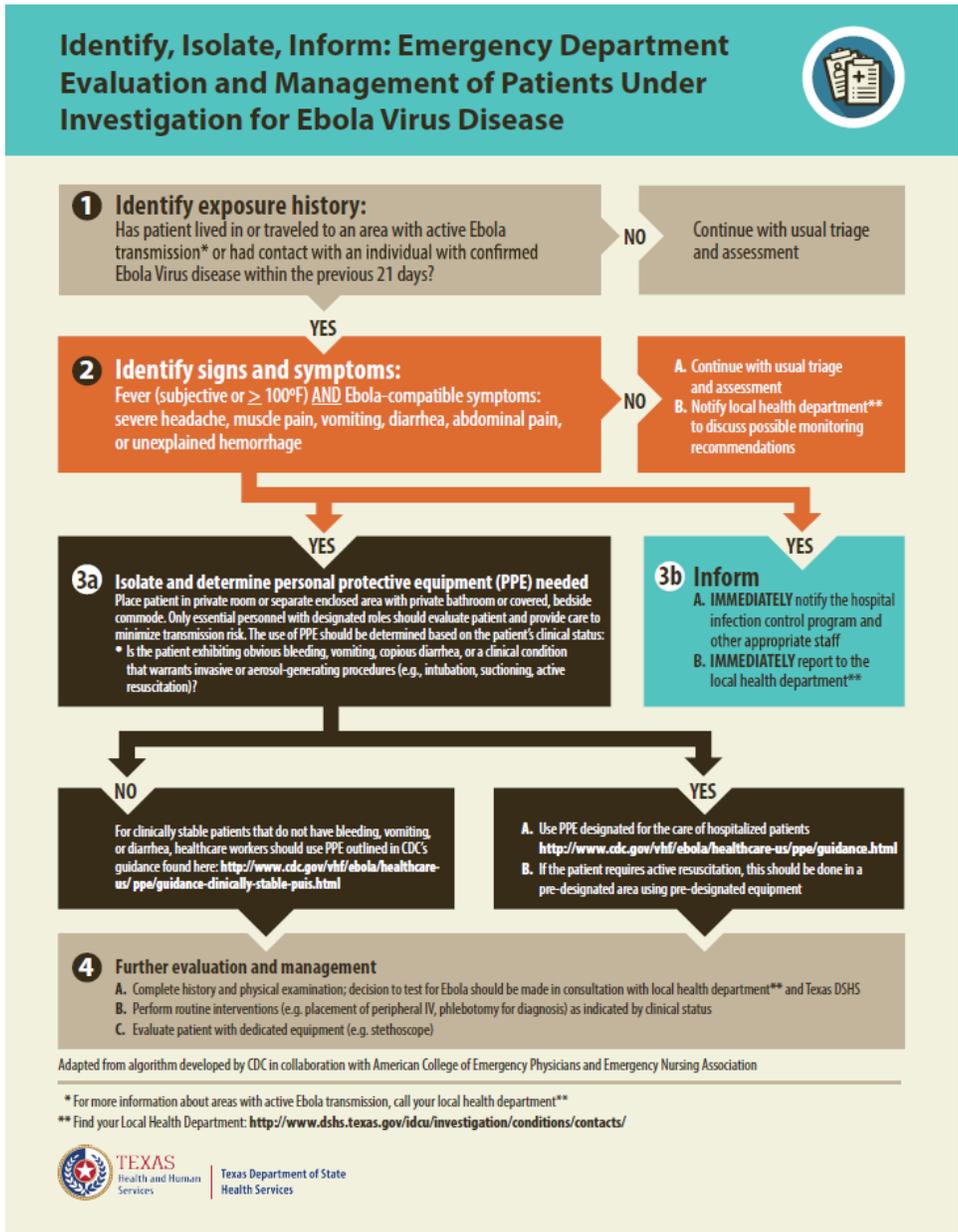


- There is no current screening process at airports. Therefore, there is no list of returning travelers from the DRC
- Returning travelers could show up at any hospital emergency department with symptoms
- Since 2015, fewer hospitals have self-designated as assessment hospitals

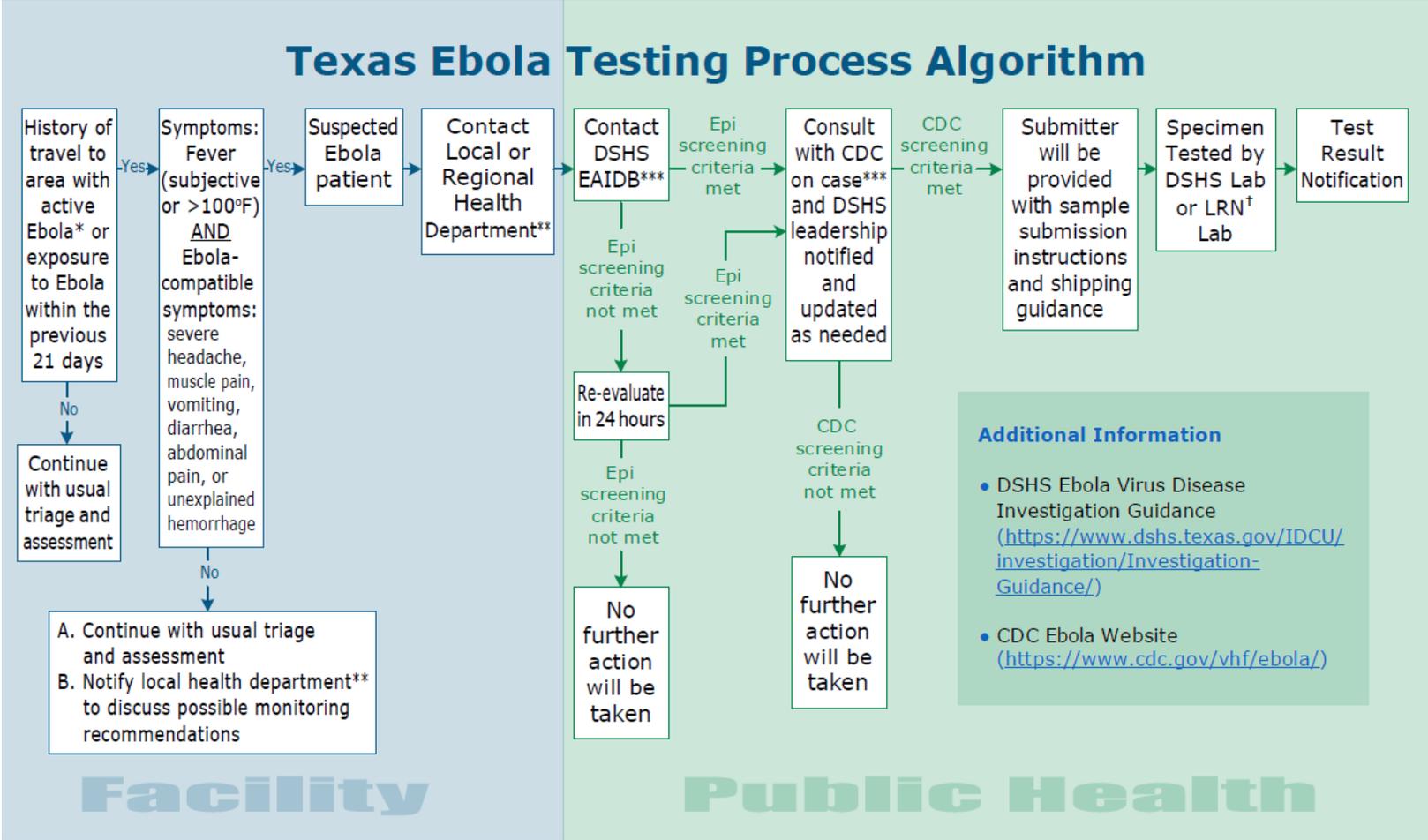


- Any hospital emergency department must be ready to manage a patient that presents with symptoms/risk for Ebola
- All hospital emergency departments need to follow the Identify, Isolate, and Inform protocols for the evaluation and management of Patients Under Investigation for Ebola Virus Disease
- Hospitals should coordinate with local public health to request an Ebola test at a designated public health lab

# Identify, Isolate, Inform



# Process to Request an Ebola Test



\*For more information about areas with active Ebola transmission, call your local health department\*\*

\*\*Find your Local Health Department: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/idcu/investigation/conditions/contacts/>

\*\*\*DSHS Emerging & Acute Infectious Disease Branch and Infectious Disease Medical Officer involved in Epi screening & consult.

†Laboratory Response Network.





- DSHS Contracted Facilities
  - University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
  - Texas Children's Hospital West Campus in Houston
    - Pediatric patients only



- Patient **MUST** have a positive (+) Ebola test prior to being considered eligible for ETC hospitalization
- DSHS and the receiving hospital **MUST** authorize the transfer of the Ebola (+) patient
- Upon approval of the transfer, the local health department, sending hospital, DSHS, and receiving hospital will coordinate the transportation and arrival of the patient



- Challenges remain with regard to evaluation and management of patients suspected of having Ebola
  - Texas hospitals and public health need clear direction on the expectations of managing PUIs for Ebola.
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- Questions?



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# Thank you

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