



# 衛生防護中心 Centre for Health Protection

## Infection Control Branch

### Health Advice on Prevention of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) for Driver, Crew and Operational Staff of Public Transport

Drivers, crew and operational staff of public transport should take the following precautionary measures in workplaces to minimise the risk of contracting and spreading EVD.

#### Disease Information

2. Please refer to the Centre for Health Protection website for disease information updates:

<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/healthtopics/content/24/34397.html>

#### Affected areas

3. Please refer to the Centre for Health Protection website for affected areas updates:

[https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/evd\\_affected\\_area.pdf](https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/evd_affected_area.pdf)

[https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/evd\\_updated\\_statistics.pdf](https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/evd_updated_statistics.pdf)

#### Preventive measures

4. Maintain good personal hygiene
  - (a) Perform hand hygiene frequently, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes, after touching public installations such as handrails, door knobs or when hands are contaminated by



respiratory secretion after coughing or sneezing. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, then dry with disposable paper towel. If hand washing facilities are not available, or when hands are not visibly soiled, hand hygiene with 70-80% alcohol-based handrub as an effective alternative.

- (b) Cover mouth and nose with tissue paper when sneezing or coughing. Dispose the soiled tissues into a lidded rubbish bin, and then wash hands thoroughly.
- (c) If feeling unwell, especially when having respiratory symptoms, wear a surgical mask, refrain from work, avoid going to crowded places and seek medical advice promptly.
- (d) Build up good body immunity by having a balanced diet, regular exercise, adequate rest, reducing stress, do not smoke and avoid alcohol consumption.
- (e) Avoid unnecessary travel to areas affected by EVD. Upon returning from affected areas, members of the public should observe the health conditions closely for 21 days. If he/she develops fever or any of the following symptoms/signs such as inexplicable bleeding, bloody diarrhea, bleeding from gums, skin, eyes or blood in urine etc., please call ambulance service by dialling “999” and inform the call centre and ambulance staff about the person’s condition and travel history. While waiting for the ambulance, the sick person should be separated from other persons.

## 5. Maintain good environmental hygiene

- (a) Regularly clean and disinfect compartments. Pay attention to the cleaning of seats, handrails, safety belts and buckles inside compartments.
- (b) Before performing environmental cleaning and disinfection:
  - (i) Cleansing staff should wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including surgical mask, rubber gloves, plastic apron and eye protection (goggles/ face shield).
  - (ii) Use strong absorbent disposable towels to wipe away the blood, secretions, vomitus or excreta. Then dispose in a garbage bag carefully without contaminating oneself/ the environment.
  - (iii) Disinfect the surface and the neighbouring area with appropriate disinfectant:

- If places are contaminated by secretions, vomitus or excreta, disinfect with 1:49 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 49 parts of water), leave for 15-30 minutes, then rinse with water and keep dry. For metallic surface, disinfect with 70% alcohol.
  - If places are contaminated by blood, disinfect with 1:4 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 4 parts of water), leave for 10 minutes, rinse with water and keep dry.
- (iv) After the procedures, put all the waste in the garbage bag.
  - (v) Carefully remove PPE and put them in the garbage bag. Then perform hand hygiene.
  - (vi) Seal the garbage bag and dispose it properly in covered rubbish bin.
  - (vii) Perform hand hygiene afterwards.

### **When there is a confirmed human case of EVD in Hong Kong, additional measures to the above**

6. Enhance environmental hygiene
  - (a) Step up cleaning schedule.
  - (b) Cleansing staff should wear appropriate PPE, including surgical mask, rubber gloves, water resistant gown (or use plastic apron over disposable gown if water resistant gown is not available), eye protection +/-gumboots #.
 

(# Use gumboots if environment is grossly contaminated with blood or body fluid.)
  - (c) Disinfect compartments with 1:99 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 99 parts of water), leave for 15-30 minutes, then rinse with water and wipe dry. For metallic surface, disinfect with 70% alcohol.
  - (d) Assign staff to monitor closely the cleaning works for compartments at termini/piers in between departures.

### **Environmental cleaning and disinfection if a passenger is suspected to have EVD**

## 7. Environmental cleaning and disinfection

- (a) Cleansing staff should wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including surgical mask, water resistant gown (or use plastic apron over disposable gown if water resistant gown is not available), double gloves (Inner gloves: latex or nitrile gloves; outer gloves: rubber gloves), eye protection (goggles/ face shield), cap (optional) and gumboots.
- (b) Disinfect all potentially contaminated surfaces or items (for example, elevator control panels, handrails, seats) by 1: 49 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 49 parts of water), leave for 15-30 minutes, rinse with water and keep dry.
- (c) If places are contaminated by blood, secretions, vomitus or excreta, enhanced measures should be taken:
  - (i) Use strong absorbent disposable towels to wipe away the blood, secretions, vomitus or excreta then dispose in a garbage bag carefully without contaminating oneself/ the environment.
  - (ii) Disinfect with 1:4 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 4 parts of water), leave for 10 minutes, rinse with water and keep dry.
  - (iii) After the procedure, put all the waste in the garbage bag.
  - (iv) Carefully remove PPE and put them in the garbage bag. Then wash hands with liquid soap and water.
  - (v) Seal the garbage bag and dispose it properly in covered rubbish bin. Then, label the rubbish bin and put it in a safe undisturbed place while pending the status of case <sup>##</sup>.
  - (vi) Wash hands with liquid soap and water.

<sup>##</sup> If the case is confirmed to have EVD, CHP will inform the public transport as soon as possible and the waste will be collected by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. On the contrary, if EVD is excluded, the wastes can be disposed as usual.

8. For more information, please visit Centre for Health Protection thematic website at

[http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view\\_content/34199.html](http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view_content/34199.html)

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