Identify, Isolate, Inform: Emergency Department Evaluation and Management of Patients Under Investigation for Ebola Virus Disease

1. **Identify exposure history:**
   Has patient lived in or traveled to a country with ongoing Ebola transmission or had contact with an individual with confirmed Ebola Virus Disease within the previous 21 days?

   - NO: Continue with usual triage and assessment
   - YES: Identify signs and symptoms:

2. **Identify signs and symptoms:**
   Fever or Ebola-compatible symptoms: headache, weakness, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, or hemorrhage

   - NO: Continue with usual triage and assessment
   - YES: Isolate and determine personal protective equipment (PPE) needed

3. **Isolate and determine personal protective equipment (PPE) needed**
   Place patient in private room or separate enclosed area with private bathroom or covered, bedside commode. Only essential personnel with designated roles should evaluate patient and provide care to minimize transmission risk. The use of PPE should be determined based on the patient’s clinical status:
   - Is the patient exhibiting obvious bleeding, vomiting, copious diarrhea or a clinical condition that warrants invasive or aerosol-generating procedures (e.g., intubation, suctioning, active resuscitation)?

   - NO: For clinically stable patients that do not have bleeding, vomiting, or diarrhea, healthcare workers should use PPE outlined in CDC’s guidance found here: https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/ppe/guidance-clinically-stable-puis.html
   - YES: Inform

4. **Inform**
   A. IMMEDIATELY notify the hospital infection control program and other appropriate staff
   B. IMMEDIATELY report to the health department

5. **Further evaluation and management**
   A. Complete history and physical examination; decision to test for Ebola should be made in consultation with relevant health department
   B. Perform routine interventions (e.g., placement of peripheral IV, phlebotomy for diagnosis) as indicated by clinical status
   C. Evaluate patient with dedicated equipment (e.g., stethoscope)

Developed in collaboration with American College of Emergency Physicians and Emergency Nursing Association

For 508 compliance, please visit:
https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/clinicians/evaluating-patients/think-ebola.html

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