CDC has developed a strategy to help healthcare facilities and state health officials prepare for patients with possible or confirmed Ebola. This strategy identifies which hospitals will provide different levels of care for patients being assessed and treated for Ebola.

**Frontline Healthcare Facility**
- Quickly identifies and isolates patients with possible Ebola
- Notifies facility infection control and state and local public health officials
- Has enough Ebola personal protective equipment (PPE) for at least 12–24 hours of care
- Prepares for patient transfer, if needed

**Ebola Assessment Hospital**
- Safely receives and isolates a patient with possible Ebola
- Provides immediate laboratory evaluation and coordinates Ebola testing
- Cares for a patient for up to 5 days (including evaluation and management of alternative diagnoses) until Ebola diagnosis is confirmed or ruled out
- Has enough Ebola PPE for up to 5 days of care
- Transfers a patient with confirmed Ebola to an Ebola treatment center in consultation with public health officials

**Ebola Treatment Center**
- Safely receives and isolates a patient with confirmed Ebola
- Cares for patients with Ebola for duration of illness
- Has enough Ebola PPE for at least 7 days of care (will restock as needed)
- Has sustainable staffing plan to manage several weeks of care
- CDC Ebola Response Teams (CERTs) are ready to deploy to provide assistance as needed

**All of the hospitals will be prepared to do the following:**
- Ensure staff are appropriately trained and have documented competency in safe PPE practices
- Have systems in place to safely manage waste disposal, cleaning and disinfection
- Adhere to infection control protocols

In some cases, a hospital should be prepared to serve in more than one role. Hospitals may serve simultaneously as an Ebola assessment hospital and an Ebola treatment center. Patients may be transferred between facilities based on the state’s plan.