

Summary of Changes to the CMOH Directive for Hospitals

The Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) issued a Directive for Hospitals to provide instructions to hospitals concerning control measures related to Ebola virus disease (EVD).

A revised version of the Directive was issued on January 14, 2015. The major changes to the Directive include:

- outlining the ministry's [three-tier hospital framework for EVD](#), including clarifying roles & responsibilities and appropriate control measures for screening, testing and treatment hospitals
- describing the [public health monitoring process](#) that has been established for travellers from EVD-affected countries/areas in West Africa
- clarifying the role of the public health unit and Public Health Ontario Laboratories to support hospitals in determining if EVD testing is required for a patient that has failed the active screening process
- outlining the process that testing and treatment hospitals must use to initiate testing for EVD through the Public Health Ontario Laboratories
- describing the separation and layout that hospitals must establish to appropriately delineate clean (cold zone), potentially contaminated (warm zone) and contaminated areas (hot zone)
- outlining best practices for the cleaning and disinfecting of noncritical equipment, as well as the reprocessing of semi-critical and critical equipment
- instructing hospitals on the awareness and training requirements for EVD

Hospitals and health care workers may contact the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Health Care Provider Hotline by phone at 1-866-212-2272 or by email at emergencymanagement.moh@ontario.ca with any questions or concerns about Ontario's health system readiness for EVD.