Instructions for Initial Assessment and Isolation of Patients at Risk for Ebola Viral Disease (EVD)

Common EVD Signs/Symptoms:
- Fever (>101.5°F)
- Headache
- Joint and muscle aches
- Weakness
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

Some patients may also experience:
- Bleeding inside and outside of the body
- Rash
- Red eyes
- Hiccups, Cough
- Sore throat
- Chest pain

Initial Assessment and Isolation:
1. Patient presents with symptoms noted above (including fever >101.5°F)
2. Immediately ask about high risk exposures in the past 21 days:
   a. Travel to one of these 4 countries with a current outbreak: Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone
   b. Direct contact with a patient known to have the Ebola (including providing patient care or having contact with blood or body fluids from an infected patient)
   c. Handling animals or animal-related specimens of any type from the affected countries
3. If symptoms are present but NO high risk exposure in the past 21 days, please proceed with routine assessment and evaluation for more typical infectious disease using routine infection control guidelines
4. If symptoms are present AND high risk exposure in the past 21 days exists, please proceed as noted below:
   a. Immediately place a surgical mask on the patient and yourself
   b. Immediately escort the patient out of the public space to any private room or a negative air-flow room if one is readily available.
   c. Institute contact, droplet, and airborne precautions
   d. Limit the number of people entering the room.
   e. Anyone entering the room where the patient is isolated should:
      i. Mask with an N95 mask (if available) or surgical mask
      ii. Use mask with face shield or use goggles
      iii. Gown (all OSU isolation gowns are fluid resistant) and
      iv. Gloves
   f. Notify the appropriate on-site physician immediately
   g. The on-site physician will evaluate the patient to determine if the patient meets criteria for EVD
   h. If the physician feels that the patient meets the criteria above, please call the OSUWMC Critical Event Officer immediately (pager 9876).
      i. The Critical Event Officer will notify Epidemiology/Infectious Diseases
      ii. The Medical Center will also ensure that Columbus Communicable Disease Reporting Service (CDRS) will be notified
      i. After additional details of the case are reviewed with the physician on site:
         i. Decisions will be made about transportation of the patient to OSUWMC if the patient presents to a non-Emergency Department site
         ii. Decisions on diagnostic testing will be made in consultation with Columbus Public Health, Ohio Department of Health and/or the CDC as appropriate.
         iii. Direction will be given to the on-site individuals regarding cleaning the room and any equipment used in the care of the patient