

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) for Ebola or Marburg:

Preventing Filoviruses from Entering Your Healthcare Facility

Healthcare Settings with Limited to Intermediate Resources

Learning Objectives

After this presentation, participants will be able to

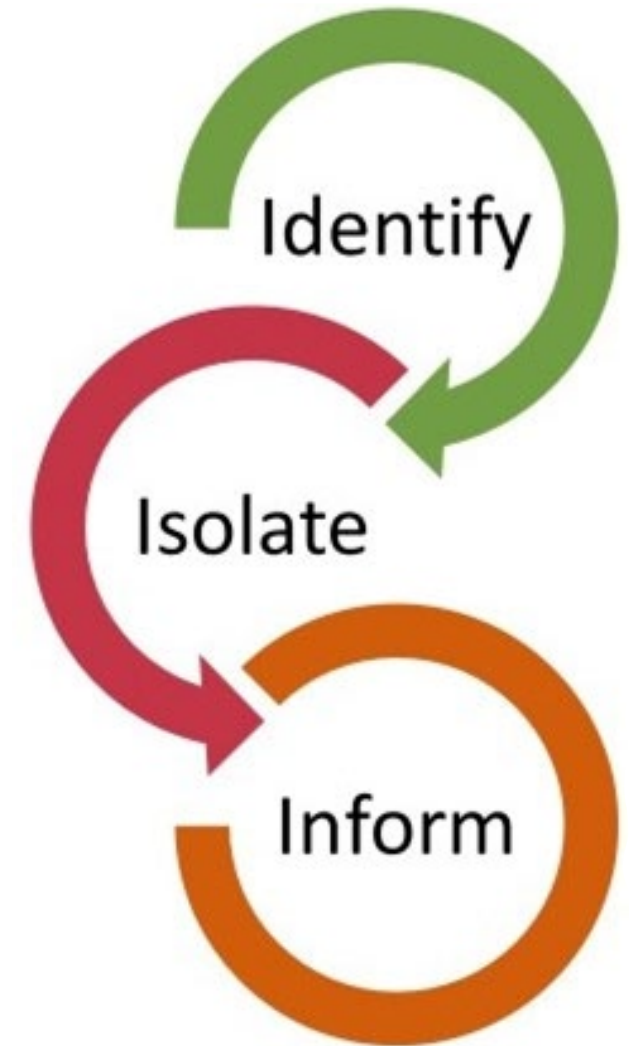
- Name the 3 key strategies to prevent introduction of Ebola or Marburg into healthcare facilities
- Explain why screening for Ebola or Marburg is important
- Describe best practices for screening for Ebola or Marburg

Discuss

Why is it important to identify people who might have Ebola or Marburg before they enter your healthcare facility?

Key Strategies to Prevent Introduction of Ebola or Marburg in Health Facilities:

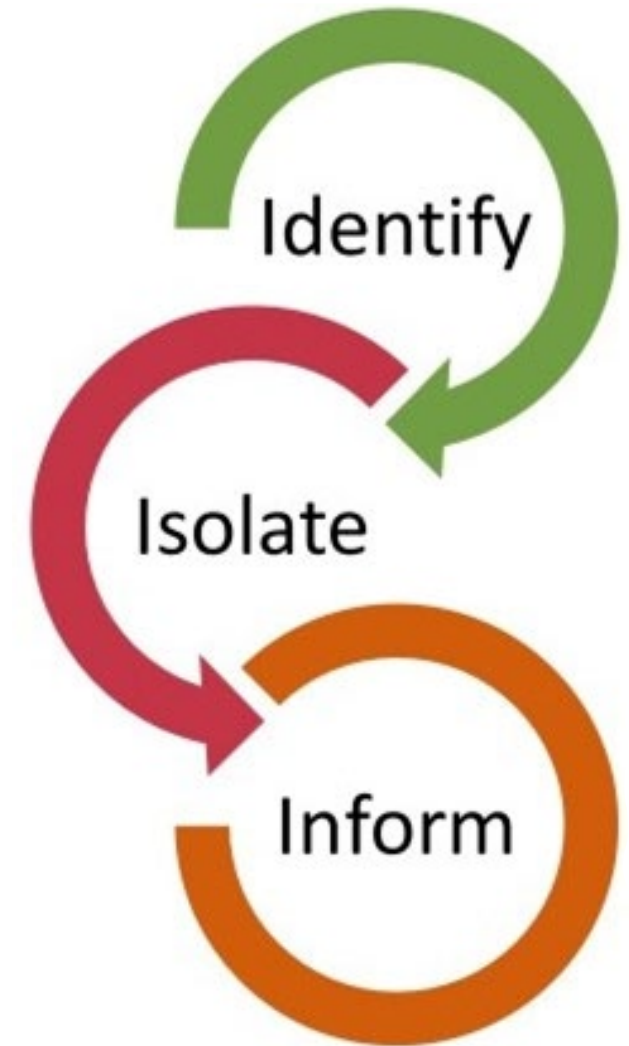
- **Identify**
- **Isolate**
- **Inform**



Identify

Screening is the process of identifying patients who might be infectious so that they can be promptly isolated and referred for testing and care at a facility intended for that purpose.

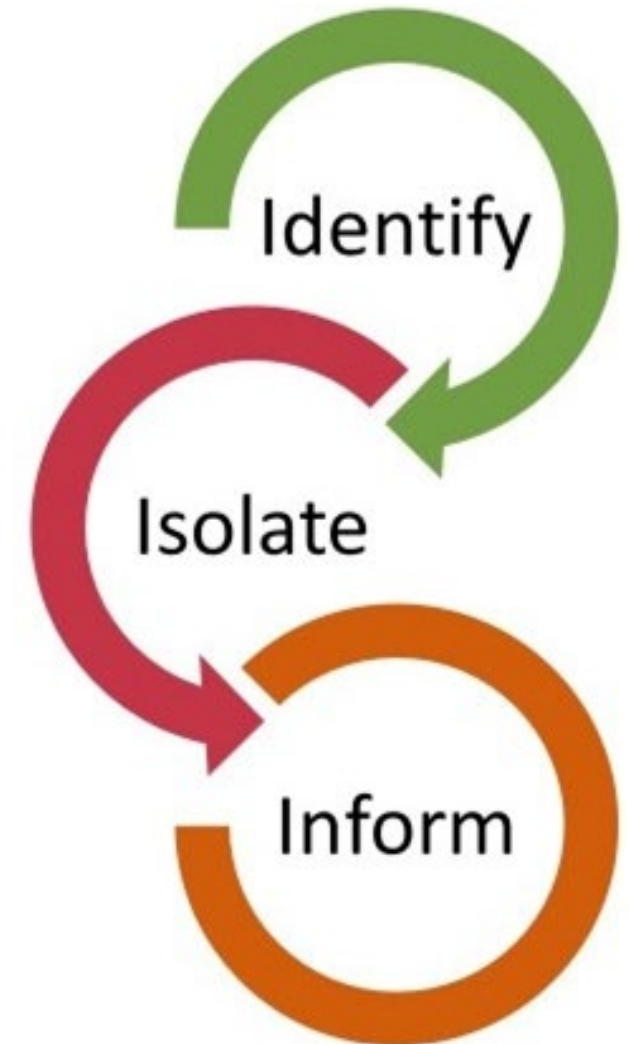
Screening should take place at the point of entry prior to entering a healthcare facility.



Isolate and Inform

When a patient is suspected of having Ebola or Marburg:

- **Isolate** the patient immediately. Explain the situation and next steps to the patient.
- **Inform** the designated physician or head nurse
 - Physician or head nurse will verify and ensure isolation measures are in place
 - Physician or head nurse **communicates the alert** to appropriate phone number



Early identification and separation of suspected Ebola or Marburg patients prevents bringing unrecognized Ebola or Marburg into your healthcare setting.

This protects...

YOU

Your patients

Your community

Screening Basics

Key Points for Screening for Ebola or Marburg

- **Screen everyone** entering a facility
 - Patients, healthcare workers, accompanying family members, etc.
- **Screen before any patient care activities.** This can be:
 - Upon entrance to a facility (e.g., a main gate)
 - During patient registration (e.g., a registration desk or office)
 - As additional layer, during check-in to wards (e.g., maternity)
- **Always assume that a patient might be infectious and use standard precautions* for ALL patients ALL the time**

** Infection prevention and control practices are applied to all patients based on the principle that all blood, body fluids, secretion, excretion, nonintact skin, and mucous membrane may contain transmissible infectious agent*

Screening Safety

- Maintain distance of at least 1 meter (about arm's length) per WHO recommendation
 - If unable to maintain at least 1 meter, wear PPE (gloves, gown, goggles, face mask)
- Avoid direct face-to-face interaction
 - angle chairs away from each other
 - place plexiglass between screener and person being screened
- Perform hand hygiene often



Avoid face-to-face interaction and keep at least 1 meter distance except during temperature check.

Screening Involves Two Parts:

- **Temperature check**
- **Questionnaire:** signs and symptoms + risk factors in past 21 days

Screening Process

Explain



Take
temperature



Use screening
Usetool



Take action

Example: "To keep everyone safe, we are screening for Marburg virus disease. We will take your temperature and ask a few questions."

Non-contact (infrared) thermometer

Follow questions on screening tool (symptoms, exposures)

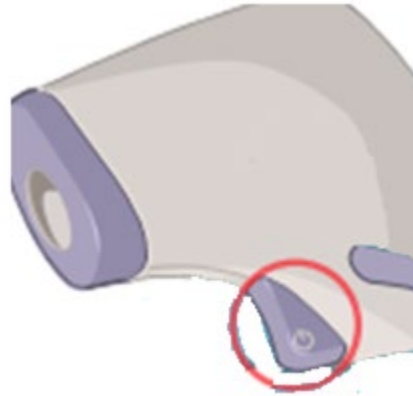
Does the person meet case definition for a suspect Marburg case?

- If YES, escort to isolation area
- If NO, they may enter the facility

Non-contact Temperature Check

1

Turn on the thermometer



Instructions vary for different types/brands of infrared thermometers.

Always check the package insert or instructions on the manufacturer's website.

2

Allow 15 minutes for device to warm up
(this allows for thermometer to acclimate to the temperature of the environment around it)



3

Confirm thermometer has correct settings (e.g., Celsius, 'body' reading instead of 'object')



Non-contact Temperature Check (continued)

4

Stand to side of person whose temperature is being taken

5

Ask person to push back hair or head scarf, remove hat or glasses, and wipe off perspiration (*perspiration in pores can lead to a lower temperature reading*)



6

Aim for the temple, above the end of the eyebrow (NOT the forehead)

7

Hold thermometer 3-5cm from person's temple (*about width of 3 fingers*) and press button

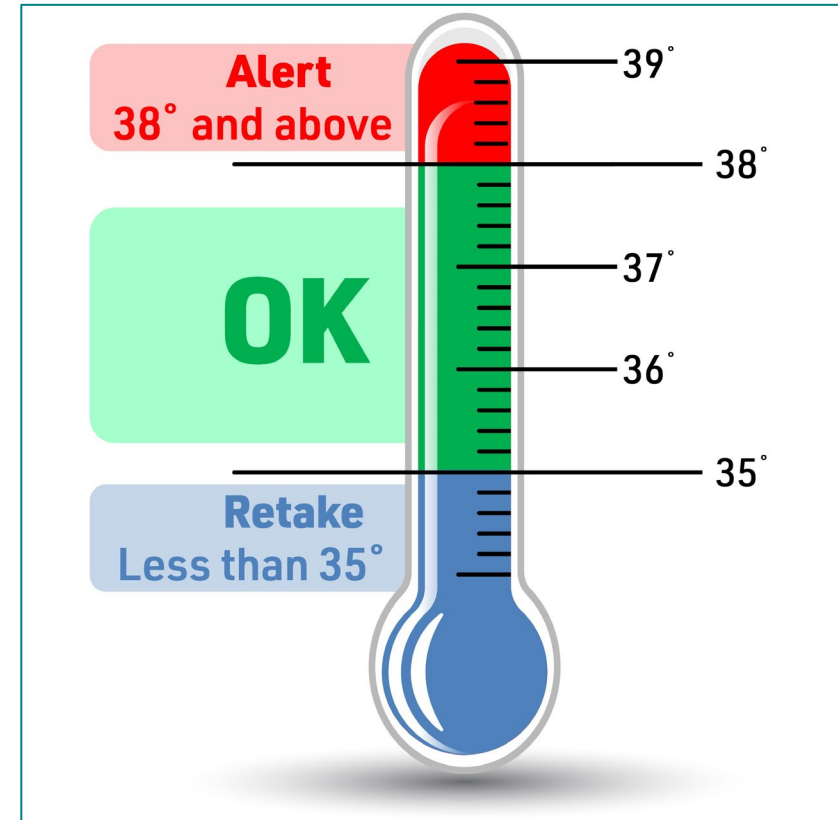


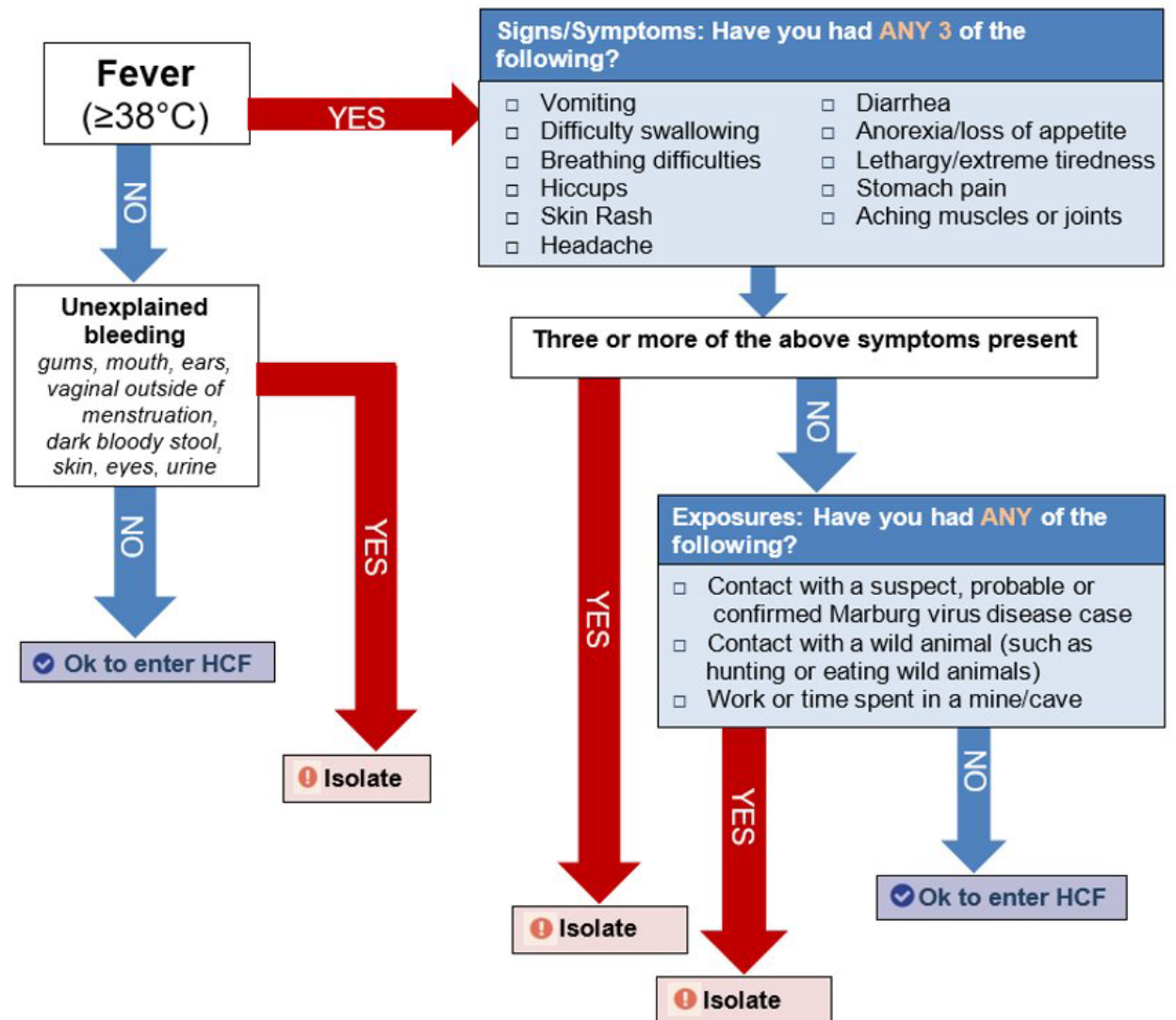
Non-contact Temperature Check (continued)

8

Read thermometer screen

- If less than 35°C, take again
- If 38°C or higher, fever indicated





Screening Algorithm for Marburg Equatorial Guinea 2023

Screening Equipment and Supplies

- Screening stations should have:
 - Print-out of screening algorithm for reference
 - Patient register
 - Infrared (non-contact) thermometer
 - Thermometer batteries/back-up thermometer
 - PPE if distance cannot be maintained

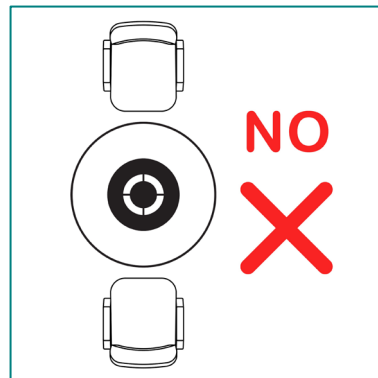
Knowledge Check

Imagine you see your co-worker screening someone entering your facility like this. What suggestions would you give them to help them screen more safely?

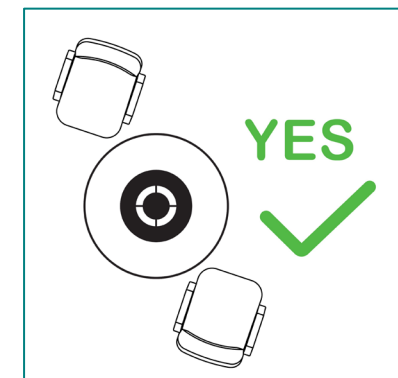


Feedback: Screening

- PPE should be based on risk assessment
- Maintain a distance of at least 1 meter (about an arm's length) or place barrier such as plexiglass
- Avoid being face-to-face
- Point thermometer closer to person's forehead or temple (depending on thermometer instructions)



Set chairs at angles to avoid being face-to-face. Keeping a table between chairs helps maintain proper distance.



Reflection

How is the process of screening for Ebola or Marburg similar to or different from screening processes you have followed in the past?

What challenges have you encountered in the past with screening? If you have never had to participate in screening, what challenges do you imagine you might have?

Key Takeaways

To protect yourself, your patients, and your loved ones...

Identify

Isolate

Inform

Thank you!

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

