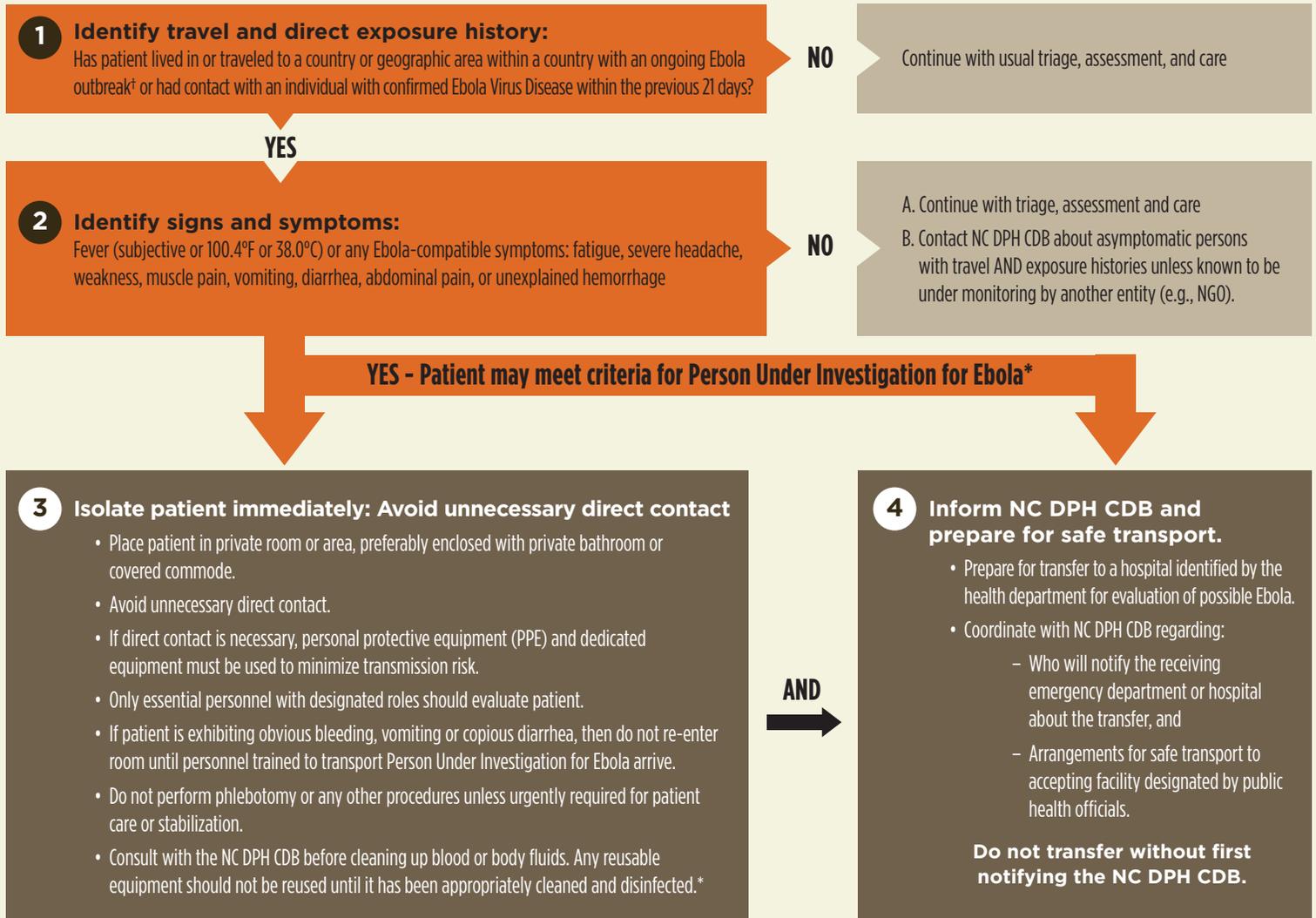


# Identify, Isolate, Inform: Ambulatory Care Evaluation of Patients with Possible Ebola Virus Disease (Ebola)



For 24/7 consultation, contact the NC DPH Communicable Disease Branch at: (919) 733-3419

The majority of returning travelers with fever in ambulatory settings do not have Ebola Virus Disease (Ebola), and the risk posed by Ebola patients with early, limited symptoms is lower than that from a patient hospitalized with severe disease. Nevertheless, because early Ebola symptoms are similar to those seen with other febrile illnesses, triage and evaluation processes should consider and systematically assess patients for the possibility of Ebola.



## PPE in the ambulatory care setting\*\*:

- No one should have direct contact with a Person Under Investigation for Ebola without wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- If PPE is available and direct patient contact necessary, a single staff member (trained in proper donning and removal of PPE) should be designated to interact with the Person Under Investigation.
- At a minimum, health care workers should use the following PPE before direct patient contact:
  - Face shield & surgical face mask,
  - Impermeable gown, and
  - Two pairs of gloves.
- The designated staff member should refrain from direct interaction with other staff and patients in the office until PPE has been safely removed in a designated, confined area. Donning and particularly doffing of PPE should occur with a monitor. Examples of safe donning and removal of PPE should be reviewed: [www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/ppe/training.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/ppe/training.html)

NOTE: Patients with exposure history and Ebola-compatible symptoms seeking care by phone should be advised to remain in place, minimize exposure of body fluids to household members or others near them, and given the phone number to notify the local health department. The ambulatory care facility must also inform the local health department and NC DPH CDB. If the clinical situation is an emergency, the ambulatory care facility or patient should call 911 and tell transport personnel the patient's Ebola risk factors so they can arrive at the location with the correct PPE.

\* Refer to [www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/) for the most up-to-date guidance on the **Case Definition for Ebola, Environmental Infection Control and Ebola-Associated Waste Management**.

\*\* Refer to [www.cdc.gov/hai/settings/outpatient/outpatient-care-guidelines.html](http://www.cdc.gov/hai/settings/outpatient/outpatient-care-guidelines.html) for a summary guide of infection prevention recommendations for outpatient settings.

† Refer to [www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/) for updates to countries or geographic locations within countries with an ongoing Ebola outbreak.

