



October 6, 2022

**Association of
American Medical Colleges**
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Dear Colleague,

We are writing to update you on the outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in Uganda and to share its significance for your practice and the health and well-being of your patients, and to help mitigate the spread of this deadly virus.

On September 20, 2022, the Ministry of Health of Uganda declared an EVD outbreak caused by the Sudan virus (*Sudan ebolavirus*) in Central Uganda. *Sudan ebolavirus* is a different species than recent EVD outbreaks that were caused by *Zaire ebolavirus*. This outbreak is the fifth outbreak of EVD caused by the Sudan virus in Uganda since 2000.

As of this writing, no suspected, probable, or confirmed cases of EVD have been reported outside of Uganda and none in the United States. Because so many people travel internationally, health care providers are strongly encouraged to obtain detailed, extensive travel histories for any patient whose symptoms may be consistent with EVD.

As indicated in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Health Alert Network \(HAN\)](#) advisory issued this week, the symptoms of EVD may initially be nonspecific and may include headache, fever, joint and muscle pain, fatigue, loss of appetite, gastrointestinal symptoms, and unexplained bleeding. A high index of suspicion is called for as the EVD outbreak continues in Uganda. The HAN advisory details diagnostic procedures, precautions for clinicians and laboratory personnel, and information on how to coordinate with local and state public health officials and CDC.

Considerable resources are available in the United States to respond to a possible importation of EVD. For testing, there are eight U.S. laboratories currently in the [Laboratory Response Network](#) capable of testing for *Sudan ebolavirus*, with more laboratories working toward achieving this testing capability. Also, the [National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Center](#) and [Regional Emergency Special Pathogen Treatment Centers](#) are available for treatment referral.

To summarize, there is an EVD outbreak in Uganda and an international response is under way to contain it. No cases have been reported in the United States, but the complexity of international travel calls for extensive, detailed travel histories of all patients whose symptoms and travel history may raise suspicion of EVD.

Further information may be found on the [CDC website](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rochelle P. Walensky".

Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH
Director, CDC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Skorton".

David J. Skorton, MD
President and CEO, AAMC