In the wake of global concerns about the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, the university recognizes that members of the NC State community and their families may have questions about NC State’s preparedness and the global status of this international public health emergency. This FAQ will address some of these questions.

This information may evolve as conditions change (current information as of November 17, 2014).

**What is the risk of exposure to the Ebola virus at NC State University?**
- The risk of being exposed at NC State University in Raleigh, or anywhere in the U.S., is low unless a person has direct, unprotected contact with the body fluids of a person (like urine, saliva, feces, vomit, sweat, and semen) who is sick with Ebola.

**What parts of the world are affected by Ebola virus?**
- National and international health authorities are currently working to control a large, ongoing outbreak of Ebola involving the West African countries of Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone since March 2014.
- On November 16, the CDC reported that the Ebola cases in Mali are related to the ongoing outbreak in Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone.
- The first case identified in the United States was confirmed on September 30, 2014 and the first case acquired in the United States was confirmed on October 12, 2014.
- The CDC has emphasized that the outbreak poses "little risk" to the general U.S. population, and health officials "are confident we would not have a spread of Ebola even if we were to have a case here."

**How is Ebola transmitted?**
- In order for the virus to be transmitted, an individual would have to come into direct contact with the blood or bodily fluids of a person who has the Ebola virus or be exposed to needles, medical equipment or other objects contaminated with infected secretions.
- Ebola cannot be transmitted through food, water or air.

**What protective measures is the university taking to safeguard the health of the NC State community?**
- **Restrictions have been placed on university-sponsored travel** to Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia for students, faculty, and staff.
- The university is closely monitoring the situation in Mali.
● Student Health Services is well-versed in caring for international students and travelers, and uses CDC-recommended protocols for screening, evaluation, and protective procedures.

● Student Health Services (SHS) and Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) are collaborating to gather and monitor relevant information about the current outbreak of Ebola virus disease in West Africa and the public health response. Links are available here to the North Carolina Division of Public Health, the CDC, the State Department, the World Health Organization, and others.

● SHS and EH&S continue to refine university preparedness together by contacting and communicating with local hospitals, EMS teams, and Wake County Human Services (local public health department) to determine, for example: 1) how the campus will provide weekly surveillance data of campus travelers to impacted areas, 2) where members of the campus community should be directed for evaluation of exposure and symptoms, and 3) how the campus, emergency transport, and local hospitals will respond to various scenarios if a member of the campus community presents with symptoms. Contact has been made with infection control specialists at our local hospitals.

Have NC State faculty, staff or students traveled to campus from West African countries affected by the Ebola outbreak?

● A thorough review by the university indicated that a small number of NC State faculty, staff, and students have been identified as having been in areas impacted by the outbreak. None have had direct contact with an infected person and all were past the incubation period.

● A travel restriction is in place for university sanctioned travel; see http://www.ncsu.edu/ncsu/ehs/www99/left/bioSafe/NCSUEbola_provost_memo.pdf

What if I plan to take personal travel to or through an Ebola-impacted area?

● The CDC has issued a travel warning against any nonessential travel to Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia. Air travelers to the U.S. whose trip starts in any of those three countries must enter through one of five US airports and receive enhanced entry screening, which helps identify travelers who may be sick with Ebola or may have had an exposure to Ebola and ensure that these travelers are connected with a health department and given medical care, if needed.

● The CDC has issued a travel alert to notify travelers that Ebola cases have been identified in Mali. Beginning November 17, air travelers whose trip starts in Mali will be subject to the same entry requirements and those originating in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia.

● The University is asking all students, staff, and faculty who are planning personal travel to or through Ebola-impacted areas (Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Mali) to notify Environmental Health and Safety as early as possible by calling 919-515-7915 or emailing Darren Treml and cc’ing Ken Kretchman.
• NC State wants to monitor personal travel in order to assure that travelers continue to receive the latest guidance.

What do I do if I think I have been exposed to the Ebola virus?
• Any NC State student, faculty member or staff person who has traveled to any of these countries within the past 21 days must contact Student Health Services at 919-515-2563 before returning to campus.
• Persons arriving in the U.S. from an Ebola-impacted area or any traveler should monitor their health and if feeling sick, contact their health provider immediately and tell him or her about their recent travel and potential contacts before they go to the doctor's office or emergency room to prevent potential transmission to others.
• Please remember: Ebola is rare. There are many more common infections that cause flu-like symptoms. No matter what the cause of your symptoms, prompt medical care is important for your well-being and to protect others.
• Students, staff and faculty with exposure to the blood or other bodily fluids of someone who is diagnosed with Ebola should call the Student Health Center at 919-515-2563 before returning to campus regarding instructions on how monitor their health.

What do I do if I'm planning to receive visitors that have traveled to or through Ebola-outbreak areas?
• The University is asking all students, staff, and faculty who are receiving visitors that have traveled to or through Ebola-impacted areas (currently Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Mali) to notify Environmental Health and Safety as early as possible by calling 919-515-7915 or emailing Darren Treml and cc'ing Ken Kretchman.

Who do I contact if I have additional questions or concerns?
• For general questions, an Ebola public information line has been established by Carolinas Poison Center. The number is 1-844-836-8714 for questions about Ebola.
• Students who have concerns about their health should contact Student Health Services at (919) 515-2563. Faculty and staff with questions about their health should contact their healthcare provider.
• For non-medical questions contact Environmental Health and Safety at (919) 515-7915 or email env-health-ibc@ncsu.edu.
If I receive questions from my students or staff requesting more information, what is the best way to respond?

- If this need arises, the university recommends providing the following in an email to your students or staff with a link to this FAQ:

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For more information regarding the university’s travel restrictions, visit

For a list of Frequently Asked Questions that includes actions the campus groups have taken including travel restrictions click this link: