




HOTEL ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK CITY, INC.

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DATE: October 15, 2014

TO: Hotel Association of New York City, Inc.
General Members

FROM: Joseph E. Spinnato, Esq. 

RE: **Information Regarding EBOLA**

We set forth herein the text of an American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA) information sheet which we believe will be helpful to you in addressing this situation with your guests and employees, should you choose to do so:

“Ebola and Industry Preparedness

Following the revelation of a case of Ebola in the United States, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has been very purposeful in reassuring the American public that there will be no widespread outbreak in the U.S. CDC Director Tom Frieden has also stated that the virus will be stopped “in its tracks,” due to systematic infection controls put in place across the country.

While there is no cause for alarm at this time, understanding the Ebola virus and its risks can help protect your guests, your employees and your business.

With our partners, we are in close communication with government and health officials to hear of the latest news and updates on the virus and will continue to share that information with our members.

Facts about Ebola in the U.S. (courtesy of the CDC):

- You can't get Ebola through air
- You can't get Ebola through food
- You can't get Ebola through water

You can only get Ebola from:

- Touching the blood or body fluids of a person who is sick or has died from Ebola
- Touching contaminated objects, like needles
- Touching infected animals, their blood or other body fluids, or meat

Good practices for prevention (courtesy of the CDC):

If you must travel to an area affected by the 2014 Ebola outbreak, such as areas in West Africa, protect yourself by doing the following:

- Wash hands frequently or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Avoid contact with blood and body fluids of any person, particularly someone who is sick
- Do not handle items that may have come in contact with an infected person's blood or body fluids
- Do not touch the body of someone who has died from Ebola
- Do not touch bats and nonhuman primates or their blood and fluids and do not touch or eat raw meat prepared from these animals
- Avoid hospitals where Ebola patients are being treated. The U.S. Embassy or consulate is often able to provide advice on medical facilities
- Seek medical care immediately if you develop fever (temperature of 101.5°F/ 38.6°C) and any of the other following symptoms: headache, muscle pain, diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain, or unexplained bruising or bleeding
- Should you experience any of the symptoms, ensure that you limit your contact with other people until and when you go to the doctor. Do not travel anywhere else besides a healthcare facility

Signs and Symptoms of Ebola (courtesy of the CDC):

- Fever (greater than 38.6°C or 101.5°F)
- Severe headache
- Muscle pain
- Weakness
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Abdominal (stomach) pain
- Unexplained hemorrhage (bleeding or bruising)

Symptoms may appear anywhere from 2 to 21 days after exposure to ebola, but the average is 8 to 10 days.

Recovery from ebola depends on good supportive clinical care and the patient's immune response. People who recover from ebola infection develop antibodies that last for at least 10 years.

Additional Resources:

- CDC information for travelers
- Stopping Ebola
- Ebola Factsheet

For more, visit www.cdc.gov. or

AHLA's web site:

<http://www.ustravel.org/government-affairs/domestic-policy-issues/pandemics-emergency-response/ebola-virus> ”

cc: Geoffrey A. Mills, Chairman