



Carondelet. Be well.

To: All Associates and Physicians  
From: Dr. Donald Denmark, SVP and Chief Medical Officer, Carondelet Health Network  
Chairman, Ebola Planning and Preparation Steering Committee  
Date: October 24, 2014  
Re: Important Update on Ebola Planning and Preparation Efforts

Much work has been undertaken and much accomplished with regard to Carondelet Health Network's Ebola (EVD) planning efforts over this last week. As we first notified you on October 15, a Network Steering Committee has been formed, along with a number of important subcommittees that have started significant work in each of their focused areas. Here is an overview of some of the work that has been accomplished:

- We have determined a standard for our system's use of **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**. It meets and, in some cases, exceeds the newest CDC guidelines, released on Tuesday, October 21. We have several days' supply on-hand and are in the process of securing additional equipment.



- A **training video** that provides detailed instruction for donning and doffing PPE is being produced and expected to be available for online viewing next week. Anyone who will be responsible for caring for a suspected or confirmed Ebola patient will also receive **one-on-one personal training on PPE** and other protocols for care; those curriculums are being built as well. Emergency Department staff at both hospitals will training next week on donning and doffing the PPE.
- All three hospitals participated in **table top emergency exercises** on Ebola over the last week and Emergency Center drills are planned at CSJ and CSM for the first week in November to evaluate our preparedness and identify gaps in our planning.
- On Wednesday, October 29, we will implement **enhanced Ebola screening questions** in the Electronic Medical Record and in paper medical records. Details will be provided in the Navigator that will be published on Monday, October 27.

Sub-committees are also working in the areas as Patient Flow and Process, Associate Staffing, Environmental Services, Equipment Management, Laboratory Processes, Waste Management, First Responder Training, and Primary Care Practices Patient.

In the unlikely case that a potential Ebola patient presents to one of our ECs in the near future, we will follow all necessary precautions during the evaluation period, including isolating the patient and instructing the emergency center care team to don full PPE. The health and safety of associates is always at the forefront of our planning. If we have reason to suspect that a patient is infected with Ebola, we will seek extensive support from local, state and national public health experts. Thank you and Be well.