

For Discussion and Action
EBOLA – Physician Education and Support
Approved 11-14-14

EBOLA: The 2014 Ebola epidemic is the largest in history, affecting multiple countries in West Africa and impacting countries around the world. National, state, and local public health officials are actively monitoring the situation and taking precautions to prevent the spread of Ebola in the U.S. While Colorado has no cases of Ebola, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is working with the Colorado Medical Society, the Colorado Hospital Association, the Colorado Nurses Association the Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials, and others to prepare and implement a state plan. CMS has already been working closely with CDPHE on this urgent matter.

Goal: Aggressively support efforts to ensure that public health, health systems and health care professionals and other partners are prepared to recognize a potential EBOLA case; to halt its transmission efficiently and quickly; and to protect our frontline and health care providers (taken from CDPHE Power Point).

Objective: Educate and support physicians to be prepared to identify and appropriately respond to the EBOLA virus

Strategies: (1) Support and collaborate with Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment's efforts to refine and implement statewide plans for responding to a possible case of Ebola and to assist hospitals, health care providers and first responders in their preparations

~~(2) Appoint a one-time Special Task Force on EBOLA Preparedness~~

(2) Appoint a Board Advisory Committee on EBOLA to be directed by Drs. Christine Nevin-Wood and Mark Johnson

Tactics:

1. Communications

- a. Sent a special communication through ASAP on Oct. 15 to 5,393 CMS members and stakeholders (completed)
- b. Sent a special communication through LiveWire on Oct. 16 to 728 practice managers (completed)
- c. Posted a dedicated web feature and webpage for Ebola resources on CMS.org (completed)
- d. Coordinating closely with CDPHE and other health provider organizations; issued a joint statement with CDPHE, CHA, CALPHO, and CNA on Oct. 15

(completed)

- e. Partnered with CMGMA to distribute our resources to their member practices (500 emails) (completed)
 - f. Sent the special communication and the email link to component societies and urged them to participate in the member education initiative with CMS (completed)
 - g. Incorporated information from the AMA into web resources (completed)
 - h. Dr. Osbourne-Roberts represented CMS by participating in the CDPHE's press conference on Oct. 21
 - i. Dr. Mark Johnson represented CMS by participating in an October 23 legislative hearing
 - j. Scheduling a conference call with Dr. Larry Wolk to brief all component and specialty presidents
 - k. Routinely update membership through various communication vehicles and web site postings
2. Policy and Information
- a. Will conduct background review of CMS disaster preparedness files and look for helpful information.
 - b. Will record and post video clip of a statement by Tamaan Osbourne-Roberts, MD
 - c. Have scheduled a November 4 webinar for physicians specific to outpatient preparedness and will create or utilize other educational webinars for our CMS members, coordinated with CDPHE.
 - d. Considering CMS member survey to determine needs
 - e. Conduct town hall meeting if needed
3. Coordination
- a. Weekly communications with CDPHE