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EDMUND G. BROWN, JR.
Governor

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AFL 14-22

TO: All Primary Care Clinics

SUBJECT: Ebola Virus Disease Information and Preparedness

This All Facilities Letter (AFL) is intended to notify all primary care clinics about recent recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding Ebola Virus Disease information, detection protocols, and facility and provider preparedness.

On October 2, 2014, the CDC issued a Health Advisory Alert (Alert) informing healthcare personnel and health officials about evaluating patients for possible Ebola Virus Disease (the alert is available at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00371.asp>). The Alert reminds health care personnel and health officials to:

- (1) Increase their vigilance in inquiring about a history of travel to West Africa in the 21 days before illness onset for any patient presenting with fever or other symptoms consistent with Ebola;
- (2) Isolate patients who report a travel history to an Ebola-affected country (currently Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea) and who are exhibiting Ebola symptoms in a private room; and
- (3) Immediately notify the local/state health department.

Note: In addition to notifying their local health department, health facilities and health care providers need to report to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) using the interim case report form titled “Viral Hemorrhagic Fever” to report suspected Ebola patients, which is found at:

<http://cdph.ca.gov/programs/cder/Pages/Ebola.aspx>

Incidents can be reported in the California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CalREDIE) at the following webpage:

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/informatics/tech/Pages/CALREDIE.aspx>

Jurisdictions not participating in CalREDIE can fax the case report to (916) 552-8973 or send the report via secure email to cder@cdph.ca.gov.

The Alert also recommends health care personnel use the following screening procedures for suspected Ebola cases:

- Checklist for Patients Being Evaluated for Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in the United States, available at <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/checklist-patients-evaluated-us-evd.pdf>
- Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Algorithm for Evaluation of the Returned Traveler, available at <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ebola-algorithm.pdf>

The CDC has also developed the following preparedness checklists for health care providers and health care facilities to help check their readiness to handle Ebola patients:

- Health Care Provider Preparedness Checklist for Ebola Virus Disease, available at <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/healthcare-provider-checklist-for-ebola.pdf>
- Health Care Facility Preparedness Checklist for Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), available at <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/healthcare-facility-checklist-for-ebola.pdf>

CDPH strongly urges all California primary care clinics to adopt the CDC screening procedures and complete the CDC Preparedness Checklists provided in the links above.

The list of Ebola-affected countries is subject to change. For up to date information regarding the Ebola Virus Disease, refer to the CDC Ebola Virus Disease webpage at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/index.html>.

Additional information on the Ebola Virus Disease is available on CDPH's website at:

<http://cdph.ca.gov/programs/cder/Pages/Ebola.aspx>

If you have any further questions, please contact the CDPH Division of Communicable Disease Control at (916) 552-9700.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Jean Iacino

Jean Iacino
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