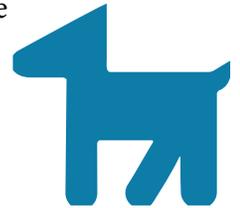


Your Pets: Ebola - What You Need to Know

Quick Take-Aways

- There have been no confirmed cases of Ebola being found in dogs or cats in the U.S. or in West Africa, even though some pets of Ebola patients have been monitored.
- The likelihood of an Ebola outbreak occurring in the U.S. remains extremely low, therefore the risk to dogs or cats is also extremely low.
- The CDC requires that pets brought into the U.S. be healthy and vaccinated, and monkeys and African rodents are not permitted to be brought to the U.S. under any circumstances.
- And finally, we would like to remind everyone that pets should have up to date rabies vaccinations to keep them and the public healthy and safe.



What is the risk of Ebola to my dog or cat?

- The chances of a dog or cat being exposed to Ebola in the U.S. is extremely low. The only way to get Ebola is by being in **direct** contact with body fluids (blood, vomit, urine, stool or sweat) of a person who is sick with Ebola. **You cannot get Ebola through the air, food or water.**
- There is no evidence that a dog or cat can become ill with Ebola. There is no reason to get your dog or cat tested for Ebola and there is currently no Ebola vaccine for pets. **At this time there have been no reports of a person getting Ebola from a dog or cat.**



What about other animals and Ebola?

- West African fruit bats are considered to be carriers of Ebola. Bats in the U.S. are not known to carry Ebola so the risk is extremely low of an Ebola outbreak from bats occurring in the U.S. However, bats in the U.S. are known to carry rabies and other diseases so you should never attempt to touch a bat, living or dead.
- Healthy monkeys already in the U.S. without exposure to an infected Ebola patient are not at risk for spreading Ebola. However, monkeys are at risk for Ebola and should not be allowed to have contact with anyone who may have Ebola.

What should I do if my pet is exposed to someone who has Ebola?

If your pet has been exposed to someone with Ebola, **immediately contact your veterinarian and your local public health department.** Based on the specific situation public health officials and veterinarians will work together to evaluate your pet on a case by case basis.



Where Can I Get More Information About Ebola?

- **HCPH** has developed an Ebola page to assist our partners and stakeholders in remaining informed about issues relevant to Ebola (www.hcphtx.org/Resources/2014-2015-Ebola-Outbreak).
- **The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** has more information about Ebola, their prevention activities, and the outbreak in West Africa, including information about pets (<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/>).
- **The American Veterinary Medical Association** has answers to frequently asked questions about pets and Ebola (<https://www.avma.org/public/Health/Pages/Ebola-virus-FAQ.aspx>).