

# Ebola Update: August 8, 2014

## Update:

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has today declared an 'International Public Health Emergency' in relation to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. This follows yesterday's decision by the CDC to raise its alert level to 'Level 1 Activation' - it's highest possible alert level. The WHO's decision is based on their view that the 'consequences of further international spread are particularly serious in view of the virulent nature of the virus', and that a 'coordinated international response is deemed essential to stop and reverse' the outbreak.
- The WHO stresses that there should be no ban on international travel or trade, but does request the following: travellers to Ebola affected or at risk areas should receive 'relevant information on risks, measures to minimize those risks, and advice for managing a potential exposure'. States currently unaffected by Ebola should be prepared to 'detect, investigate, and manage Ebola cases' and to 'facilitate the evacuation and repatriation of nationals who have been exposed to Ebola'. States with confirmed Ebola transmission should declare a 'National Emergency' and immediately implement 'national disaster/emergency management mechanisms'. States with potential or confirmed Ebola cases should treat clusters of unexplained deaths as a 'health emergency' and take 'immediate steps in the first 24 hours' to stop a potential outbreak. These States should then declare a 'State of Emergency' if transmission is confirmed.
- Two possible Ebola cases are being investigated in Benin, which shares a border with Nigeria.
- The CDC has warned the US Congress' House Foreign Affairs Committee that the outbreak constitutes an 'unprecedented' crisis and advised that it was 'inevitable' that someone will enter the United States carrying Ebola. Equally, the CDC advised that it is confident that it can contain an outbreak in the United States.
- The US embassy in Liberia is evacuating the families of staff members. This follows yesterday's declaration of a 'State of Emergency' in Liberia.

## Clinics and Facilities Status in Affected Areas

Healix is in direct communication with those medical facilities that are still operating in the impacted regions. Please contact Healix directly for further information on the readiness of medical facilities in these areas.

## Country Travel Advice Status 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2014

Sierra Leone:	Warning Level 3 - Healix Recommend "Avoid Non-Essential Travel"
Guinea:	Warning Level 3 - Healix Recommend "Avoid Non-Essential Travel"
Liberia:	Warning Level 3 - Healix Recommend "Avoid Non-Essential Travel"
Nigeria:	Alert Level 2 - Healix Recommend "Practice Enhanced Precautions"

## Other African Nations Unaffected by Ebola

Healix recommend that travellers take usual precautions with vaccinations and travel arrangements but should be familiar with ["Ebola Precautions if Traveling to Africa."](#)

**Ebola Infection Table by Country:**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Suspected and Confirmed Case Count</b>	<b>Suspected and Confirmed Case Deaths</b>	<b>Laboratory Confirmed Cases</b>
Sierra Leone	691	286	576
Liberia	516	282	143
Guinea	495	363	351
Nigeria	9	1	0
Benin	2	0	0
Spain*	1	0	0
United States*	2	0	2
Saudi Arabia*	0	1	0

\*Persons repatriated to these countries from affected countries

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