

Healix International and HX Global are closely monitoring the current outbreak of Ebola in West Africa, and will be sending regular updates and advice to our clients as the outbreak continues.

**Update, 18 September:**

- A black market for the blood of Ebola survivors is emerging, despite warning from the World Health Organization (WHO). The protein base of blood from survivors, known as convalescent serum, is said to be rich in antibodies that can fight the virus. Studies have suggested blood transfusions from survivors may help prevent and treat Ebola but more research is needed. The dangers of obtaining convalescent serum illicitly are extensive and include the spread of other diseases like HIV and allergic reactions to the transfusions resulting in anaphylactic shock.
- A British nurse who survived the virus, Will Pooley, is said to have traveled to the United States to donate his blood to a patient. It is believed the two worked together Sierra Leone. Pooley was discharged from the Royal Free Hospital in northwest London two weeks ago and had all his belongings burned as a precaution against spreading the disease.
- A World Bank Group analysis of the Ebola epidemic warns the economic impact on Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone could grow eight-fold if the disease continues to surge. The three countries were in fragile economic condition before the epidemic but were experiencing some growth. The outlook for them is uncertain and the World Bank urges a swift international reaction to lessen overall economic costs.
- The three-day lockdown in Sierra Leone began today and will be enforced until Sunday. Residents are prohibited from leaving their homes and health workers will travel from house to house identifying cases; suspected cases will be taken to holding centers. Roughly 21,000 people were recruited to bolster the police forces and soldiers helping to enforce the quarantine. The Sierra Leone government expects to identify up to 20% in the next three days.

**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**

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"  
 DRC: Alert Level 2 - Healix Recommend "Practice Enhanced Precautions"

**Other African Nations Unaffected by Ebola**

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

Ebola Infection Table by Country (based on CDC reporting, updated as of 13 September):

Country	Suspected and Confirmed Case Count	Suspected and Confirmed Case Deaths	Laboratory Confirmed Cases
Sierra Leone	1620	562	1464
Liberia	2407	1296	790
Guinea	936	595	743
Nigeria	21	8	19
Senegal	1	0	1
Spain*	1	1	0
United States*	4	0	4
Saudi Arabia*	0	1	0
United Kingdom*	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,991</b>	<b>2,463</b>	<b>3,021</b>

\*Persons repatriated to these countries from affected countries