

# Teen Health & Wellness

real life • real answers

[Print](#)[Close Window](#)Display: ☒ Section ☐ Full Article

## Ebola

### WEST AFRICA EBOLA OUTBREAK

In July 2014, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed a major Ebola threat in West Africa that affected three West African nations. Many health officials declared it the worst Ebola outbreak in history. In these cases, diseases can spread outside a localized area and run the risk of becoming a more global problem, or a pandemic, an illness that affects a whole region, continent, or even the world. In the weeks that passed after the initial outbreak, WHO reported that more than 100 health care workers in West Africa had been exposed to the virus through human-to-human transmission. As the number of confirmed cases continued to rise, health officials across the world scrambled to prepare for the spread of Ebola beyond West Africa.

#### Key Dates in the Ebola Outbreak

- **July 2014** — WHO confirms a major outbreak of the Ebola virus in West Africa. Affected areas include Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea and Nigeria. A total of 117 diagnosed cases and 97 deaths are confirmed between July 28 and July 30.
- **August 4, 2014** — WHO's data shows the number of diagnosed cases is at 1,711, including 932 deaths.
- **August 8, 2014** — WHO declares the West African outbreak "an international public health emergency."
- **August 11, 2014** — A panel of global health experts consider the ethics of using experimental drugs to treat patients infected with Ebola.
- **August 12, 2014** — WHO approves the use of an experimental drug called ZMapp. ZMapp has never been clinically tested in humans. All available supplies of the drug are sent to West Africa.
- **August 13, 2014** — Miguel Pajares, a Spanish priest, dies from Ebola. Pajares contracted the virus while treating patients in Liberia and is believed to have been treated with ZMapp. He is the first European victim of the West African outbreak.
- **September 2014** — President Barack Obama announces the U.S. military will provide equipment, supplies, and support to West Africa.
- **September 30, 2014** — The first laboratory-confirmed case of Ebola in the United States is diagnosed. The patient, Thomas Eric Duncan, traveled from West Africa to Dallas, Texas, where he developed symptoms within four days of arrival. Duncan is admitted to Texas Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas for treatment.
- **October 2014** — Airports around the world begin health screenings to prevent the spread of Ebola.
- **October 1, 2014** — The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services confirms it will increase production of ZMapp. WHO gives approval to test two promising candidate vaccines for Ebola.
- **October 8, 2014** — Duncan dies from the Ebola virus. There are 8,400 total cases of Ebola and 4,033 confirmed deaths in West Africa.
- **October 10, 2014** — Nina Pham, a healthcare worker at Texas Presbyterian Hospital, tests positive for Ebola and is isolated for treatment. She is part of the medical team that treated Thomas Eric Duncan.
- **October 13, 2014** — CDC director Dr. Tom Frieden gives a press conference to address the recent developments in the United States. "We have to rethink the way we address Ebola infection control, because even a single infection is unacceptable."

- **October 14, 2014** — A United Nations worker dies of Ebola after treatment at St. Georg hospital in Leipzig, Germany. The patient contracted the virus while working in Liberia.
- **October 15, 2014** — The Texas Department of State Health Services confirms that a second Dallas healthcare worker, Amber Joy Vinson, has tested positive for Ebola.
- **October 17, 2014** — President Obama appoints Ron Klain to coordinate the U.S. response to the Ebola virus. Klain is a former chief of staff to Vice President Joe Biden and former Vice President Al Gore.
- **October 19, 2014** — Nina Pham's dog, Bentley, will be monitored for signs of Ebola. The CDC says there is limited evidence that dogs can contract the Ebola virus.
- **October 20, 2014** — WHO announces that Nigeria is free of Ebola.
- **October 24, 2014** — Nina Pham is cleared of the Ebola virus and released from the hospital.
- **October 27, 2014** — Several states impose mandatory 21-day quarantines for health workers returning from West Africa.
- **October 27, 2014** — Ebola researchers at the Scripps Research Institute raise \$100,000 in just over two weeks through online crowdfunding. The money will go toward developing Ebola treatments, including the experimental drug ZMapp.
- **October 28, 2014** — Amber Joy Vinson is cleared of the Ebola virus and released from the hospital. Australia closes its borders to travelers from West Africa and other Ebola-affected countries.
- **October 31, 2014** — There are 13,567 total cases of Ebola and 4,960 confirmed deaths in West Africa.
- **November 3, 2014** — Ebola is spreading nine times faster in Sierra Leone than two months ago. United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon warns against imposed quarantines and restrictions on health care workers returning from Ebola-affected areas.

**Article Citation in MLA (Modern Language Association) format:**

"Ebola." *Teen Health and Wellness*. Rosen Publishing Group, Inc., 2014. Web. 5 Nov. 2014  
<<http://www.teenhealthandwellness.com/article/145/ebola>>

**Article Citation in APA (American Psychological Association) format:**

Teen Health and Wellness. (2014). *Ebola*. Retrieved November 5, 2014, from  
<http://www.teenhealthandwellness.com/article/145/ebola>

**Article Citation in Chicago Manual of Style (16th edition) format:**

"Ebola." *Teen Health and Wellness*. November 5, 2014. <http://www.teenhealthandwellness.com/article/145/ebola>.

® The Rosen Publishing Group, Inc. 2014.