



TECHNICAL MEMO

October 31, 2014

Ebola virus causes an often fatal disease (Ebola Virus Disease, EVD) and is currently in epidemic status in some African countries, according to the World Health Organization, WHO (Guinea, Nigeria, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/statements/2014/ebola-20140808/en/>).

The US Centers for Disease Control, CDC, has issued the following guidelines for dealing with Ebola patients:

Hand Hygiene

- HCP (Healthcare Personnel) should perform hand hygiene frequently, including before and after all patient contact, contact with potentially infectious material, and before putting on and upon removal of PPE, including gloves.
- Healthcare facilities should ensure that supplies for performing hand hygiene are available.

Hand hygiene in healthcare settings can be performed by washing with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand rubs. If hands are visibly soiled, use soap and water, not alcohol-based hand rubs.

Environmental Infection Control

- Diligent environmental cleaning and disinfection and safe handling of potentially contaminated materials is paramount, as blood, sweat, emesis, feces and other body secretions represent potentially infectious materials.
- HCP performing environmental cleaning and disinfection should wear recommended PPE (described above) and consider use of additional barriers (shoe and leg coverings, etc.) if needed.
- Face protection (face shield or facemask with goggles) should be worn when performing tasks such as liquid waste disposal that can generate splashes.
- Follow standard procedures, per hospital policy and manufacturers' instructions, for cleaning and/or disinfection of:
 - Environmental surfaces and equipment
 - Textiles and laundry

The above statements are based on information current as of the date of publication, October 31, 2014, and may not be relied on following the publication date. The CDC may revise its advice relating to the above matters and you are advised to check with the CDC (www.cdc.gov) to ensure their recommendations are current and valid.

- Food utensils and dishware

According to CDC Interim Guidance for Environmental Infection Control in Hospitals for Ebola Virus:

Use a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered hospital disinfectant with a label claim for a non-enveloped virus (e.g., Norovirus, Rotavirus, Adenovirus, Poliovirus) to disinfect environmental surfaces in rooms of patients with suspected or confirmed Ebola virus infection.

Although there are no products with specific label claims against the Ebola virus, enveloped viruses such as Ebola are susceptible to a broad range of hospital disinfectants used to disinfect hard, non-porous surfaces. In contrast, non-enveloped viruses are more resistant to disinfectants. As a precaution, selection of a disinfectant product with a higher potency than what is normally required for an enveloped virus is being recommended at this time. EPA-registered hospital disinfectants with label claims against non-enveloped viruses (e.g., Norovirus, Rotavirus, Adenovirus, Poliovirus) are broadly antiviral and capable of inactivating both enveloped and non-enveloped viruses.

Registered disinfectant products that meet the CDC criteria for use against the Ebola Virus:

- CaviWipes1™, a hard, non-porous surface cleaner and disinfectant, is effective in 3 minutes against a non-enveloped virus (Adenovirus). Adenovirus claim can be found on the EPA Product Master Label and the use instructions for the non-enveloped virus should be followed. Link to Product Master label can be found here: <http://www.metrex.com/caviwipes1/master-label>
- CaviCide1™, a hard, non-porous surface cleaner and disinfectant, is effective in 3 minutes against non-enveloped viruses (Norovirus, Rotavirus and Adenovirus). Norovirus, Rotavirus and Adenovirus claims can be found on the Product Master label and the use instructions for non-enveloped viruses should be followed. Link to Product Master label can be found here: <http://www.metrex.com/cavicide1/master-label>

The above products can meet the criteria stated in the CDC Interim Guidance for Environmental Infection Control in Hospitals for Ebola Virus.

At this time, EPA is not allowing label claims related to antimicrobial product efficacy specifically against the Ebola virus since a scientifically available testing procedure with a surrogate has not been developed.

Reference:

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<http://epa.gov/oppad001/ebola-efficacy-claims.html>

At Metrex, we believe that no one should ever have to fight for their health over an illness they did not have when they entered a healthcare facility, and we will work tirelessly to ensure that all people within all areas of the healthcare environment are properly protected so focus can be placed on getting the patient better.

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