



## EMS / First Response Agencies Ebola Memorandum

Date: November 7, 2014

To: Oregon EMS Providers, First Response Personnel and EMS System Stakeholders

From: Ebola Response Incident Management Team

Re: **OHA-EMS working with EMS agencies across Oregon**  
*All EMS agencies requested to meet with local Public Health Officer to develop plan for responding to suspect Ebola case*

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The Oregon Health Authority, Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program (OHA-EMS), in conjunction with the Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Incident Management Team is working daily to monitor and coordinate a response to Ebola.

Dr. Lehrfeld, Medical Director for OHA-EMS has been available 24 hours-a-day by phone and e-mail and has been communicating regularly with EMS medical directors from around the state, as well as agency leads. Dr. Lehrfeld's focus has been on identifying capacity and response capabilities as well as answering location-specific questions relating to Ebola response.

OHA-EMS requests all Oregon EMS agencies to meet with the local Public Health Officer (PHO) in their county or region and develop a plan for responding to a suspected case of Ebola.

Although the risk of a patient with suspected Ebola remains very low, EMS and other first response agencies must be prepared. The best guidance at this time is to have a plan that involves a close relationship with local public health officials.

If an EMS agency were to transport a suspected Ebola case, it is highly likely that individual would be a Person Under Monitoring (PUM). A PUM will be known to local public health officials prior to developing symptoms and the local PHO should have contacted EMS and developed a response strategy before transport is needed. Those response strategies will be different from region to region based on local system elements and taking into account CDC recommended guidelines.

The Oregon Health Authority has many resources available for EMS agencies at the following website: [healthoregon.org/ebola](http://healthoregon.org/ebola). Please use this site for guidance and to help answer any questions you may have. You can also e-mail questions to [ebola.oregon@state.or.us](mailto:ebola.oregon@state.or.us), and your question will be answered as quickly as possible.

The Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Incident Management Team is working hard to assist all community partners with this evolving situation. Check the [Ebola page for EMS and First Responder personnel](#) frequently as guidelines and information are likely to change as this dynamic situation continues.