

EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE

DISEASE TRANSMISSION

GUIDELINES FOR PHARMACISTS

HOW IS EBOLA TRANSMITTED?

- a. By direct contact between mucous membranes (e.g. eyes, nose or mouth) or broken skin (e.g. cuts, wounds or abrasions) and blood, tissues or body fluids (e.g. saliva, mucus, vomitus, urine, stool, semen, vaginal discharge, sweat, tears, breast milk, bile and phlegm) of a symptomatic infected person;
- b. By direct contact with environments or objects contaminated with fluids from an infected person (e.g. clothes, bed linen or needles);
- c. Through the semen of men who have recovered from the disease (for up to 7 weeks after recovery);
- d. By direct contact with a person who died from EVD (e.g. during funerals or burial rituals).

HOW IS EBOLA NOT TRANSMITTED?

- a. Through virus particles suspended in the air, for example after an infected person coughs or sneezes;
- b. Through intact skin;
- c. Through water or food (except for the meat of certain wild animals, including bats, monkeys and apes, especially in Ebola affected African countries);
- d. Through routine, social contact with asymptomatic individuals, such as shaking hands, hugging or sitting next to someone. (However, in areas where an active EVD outbreak exists, it is prudent to keep close forms of social contact to a minimum.)