

VIRAL HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER (VHF) Risk Assessment for Ambulance Services

TALK but DON'T TOUCH. Keep distance of > 1 METRE

*Patient has visited an area with a declared VHF (e.g. Ebola, Marburg, Lassa, CCHF) outbreak, or has been in Lassa endemic areas, been in caves or in contact with or eaten primates, bats or antelope in a Marburg/Ebola endemic area, or been in an area endemic with Crimean Congo fever after sustaining a tick bite.

**come into contact or cared for a patient with VHF, or come into contact with body fluids or contaminated waste from such a person.

Patient has **FEVER >37.5°C** or history of fever in **previous 24 hours**
AND
 Patient has returned from an area* affected by a current VHF outbreak **within the last 21 DAYS**
OR
 Has had contact with a confirmed or probable case of VHF**
If attending a patient on an aircraft see additional steps below before assessing patient

Initial Actions

- REMOVE PATIENT** to a less crowded area for assessment.
- SURGICAL MASK** for Patients with respiratory symptoms if tolerated
- AMBULANCE CONTROL** to initiate direct phone contact between Paramedics and National Isolation Unit (NIU). **Phone 01-8032000** (Ask for ID Consultant on call)

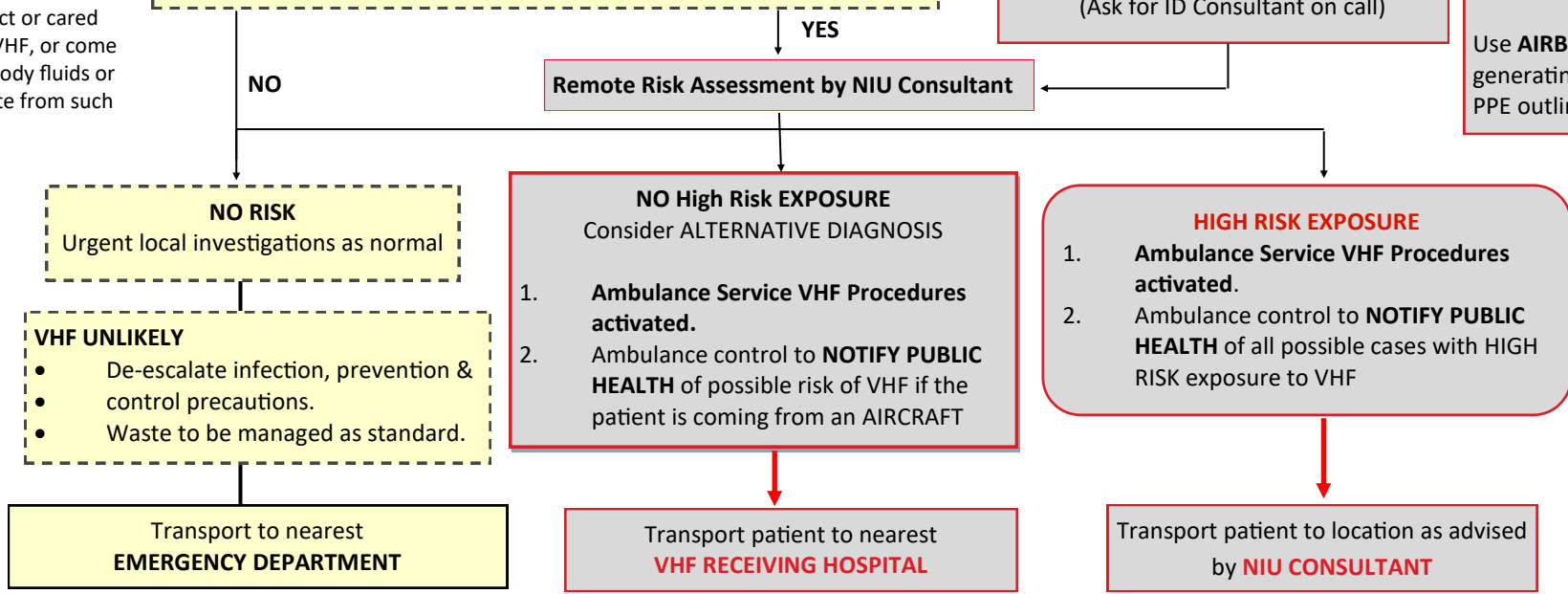
Standard Precautions (SP) PLUS

The use of **Level 1 or Level 2 PPE is based on local risk assessment.**

Level 2 PPE usage essential for:

- Unstable patient under investigation
- Patient with bleeding, vomiting or diarrhoea
- Patient requiring invasive/aerosol generating procedures

Use **AIRBORNE** precautions for aerosol generating procedures (FFP3 mask plus PPE outlined above).



PUBLIC HEALTH CONTACT DETAILS

Public Health Area A: 046 928 2700

Public Health Area B: (057) 9359891

Public Health Area C: (0)56 770 4301

Public Health Area D: (0)21 4927601

Public Health Area E: (0)61 483 338

Public Health Area F: (0)91 775 200/(0)71 917 4750

NIU: 01-8032000

OOH contact for DPH/MOH—Call Ambulance Control on 112/999 and ask to be connected to Public Health on call.

IF ATTENDING PATIENT ON AIRCRAFT ACTIVATE THE PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT

AMBULANCE PERSONNEL should:

- DON PPE** before entering.
- DISTRIBUTE and COLLECT Passenger Locator Cards** for (i) **PASSENGERS SEATED ONE SEAT** in each direction from the ill person (ii) persons who reported direct contact with patient, (iii) crew serving that section.
- FORWARD** these priority cards with report copy directly to **PUBLIC HEALTH**
- REQUEST CABIN CREW** to: (i) Announce the Travel Health Alert Announcement (ii) Distribute and collect Passenger Locator Card from ALL OTHER passengers and crew (iii) Distribute a copy of the Travel Health Alert Announcement leaflet to all passenger and crew. (iv) **Completed Passenger Locator Cards** should be provided to local Public Health Department
- ALL WELL PASSENGERS** should then be allowed to **DISEMBARK**, using exits without passing the patient.

