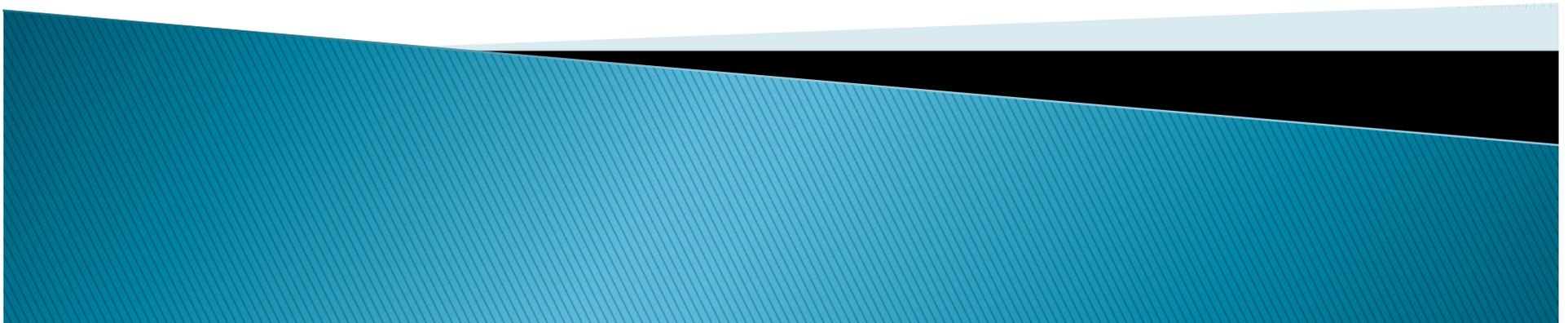


Ebola Update

Presentation to
Travis County Commissioners Court
November 4, 2014



Ebola

- ▶ **Viral disease in humans and nonhuman primates**
- ▶ **Initially recognized in Africa in 1976**
- ▶ **Natural reservoir is unknown**
- ▶ **Five known Ebola virus strains**
 - **Zaire, Sudan, Tai Forest, Bundibugyo, Reston**



2014 Ebola Outbreak in West Africa

- ▶ Over 10,100 cases
 - Guinea – 1,553 cases
 - Liberia – 4,665 cases
 - Sierra Leone – 3,896 cases
 - Nigeria – 20 cases

- ▶ Over 4,910 deaths



As of October 24, 2014

Signs and symptoms

- ▶ **Fever (greater than 100.4°F)**
- ▶ **Severe headache**
- ▶ **Muscle pain**
- ▶ **Weakness**
- ▶ **Diarrhea**
- ▶ **Vomiting**
- ▶ **Abdominal (stomach) pain**
- ▶ **Unexplained hemorrhage (bleeding or bruising)**



Transmission

- ▶ Ebola is spread through direct contact (through broken skin or mucous membranes) with:
 - blood or body fluids (including but not limited to urine, saliva, feces, vomit, and semen) of a person who is sick with Ebola, or
 - objects (like needles and syringes) that have been contaminated with the virus, or
 - contact with infected animals
- ▶ Ebola is not spread through the air or by water, or in general food.
- ▶ A person with Ebola is not infectious until after symptoms have developed – not before.



Key Points

- ▶ The risk of transmission in our city is very low.
- ▶ HHSD is closely monitoring the situation and coordinating preparedness activities:
 - Working in concert with DSHS and CDC.
 - Conducting surveillance and monitoring reported disease
 - Providing area health care providers, hospitals, schools, higher education and others with situational updates, case definitions, infection control practices, lab submission procedures, protocols to report suspect cases
 - Providing updated information to the public through media interviews, website, social media.
 - Convening and consolidating community response
 - Monitoring case contacts and travelers returning from affected countries.



Questions?

