

- A zoonotic disease is a disease that can be passed between animals and humans. Zoonotic diseases can be caused by viruses, bacteria, parasites, and fungi
- These diseases are very common
- 6 out of every 10 infectious diseases

in humans are spread from animals

- Animal are reservoirs/hosts for the pathogens
- Some of these diseases start in wildlife that is being displaced by deforestation in remote areas of the world
- Diseases can move around the globe quickly



## **Zoonotic disease – transmission**

- Coming into contact with the saliva, blood, urine, or feces of an infected animal
- Airborne (e.g. Anthrax)
- Being bitten by a tick or mosquito (often called a "vector")
- Eating or drinking something unsafe (such as unpasteurized milk, undercooked meat, or unwashed fruits and vegetables that are contaminated with feces from an infected animal)

Common (of 1,407 human pathogens)

58% are zoonotic

70% of emerging diseases are zoonotic

- Occur in numerous animal species
- Very diverse
  - Severity
  - Transmission dynamics
- Difficult to predict changes in incidence



# **Zoonoses: Animal Species**

- Dogs & Cats
  - Rabies
  - Roundworm
  - Ringworm
  - Cat Scratch Disease
  - Toxoplasmosis
- Food Animals
  - Salmonella
  - E.coli
  - Brucellosis



# **Zoonoses: Animal Species**

### • Birds

- Psittacosis
- West Nile virus
- Eastern Equine Encephalitis
- Avian Influenza

### • Reptiles, Fish, & Amphibians

- Salmonella
- Mycobacterium

### Wild Animals

- Hantavirus
- Plague
- Tularemia
- Lyme Disease



### New emerging infectious diseases:

- Viral hemorrhagic fevers, like Ebola
- Respiratory diseases, like SARS
- Novel influenza viruses, like pandemic H1N1



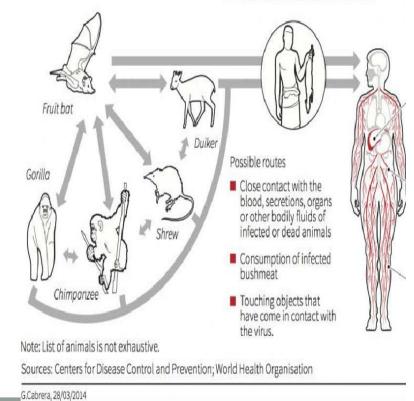
# **Ebola disease**

#### SOURCE

In Africa, particular species of fruit bats are considered possible natural hosts for Ebola virus.

#### TRANSMISSION

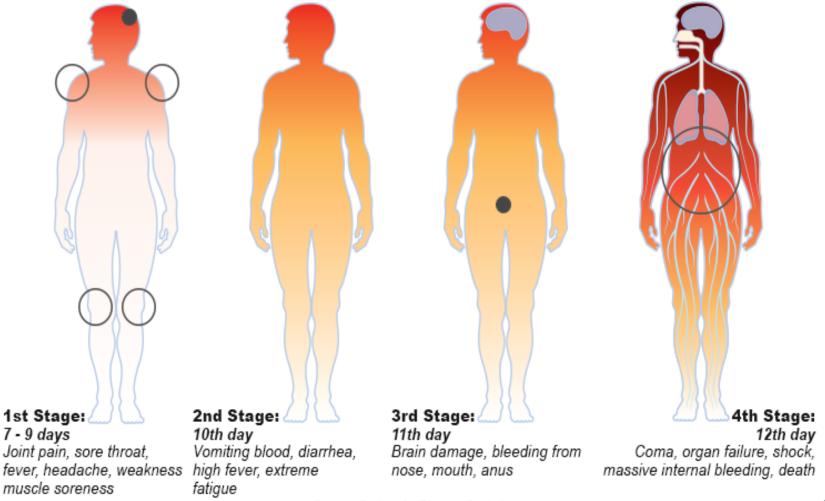
Infected bats are thought to transmit the disease to humans, or indirectly through other animals which are hunted for their meat.





### **Ebola disease**

EBOLA SYMPTOMS: Occur 2 - 21 days after exposure, but 8 - 10 days is most common



Source: Centers for Disease Control

# Ebola disease

# Ebola Virus

#### Ebola



**Ebola** is a rare and deadly disease caused by infection with an Ebola virus. Sporadic outbreaks have occurred in some African countries since 1976.

#### How Ebola Germs are Spread



Ebola can only be spread by direct contact with blood or body fluids from

- A person who is sick or who has died of Ebola.
- Objects like needles that have been in contact with the blood or body fluids of a person sick with Ebola.

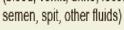
Ebola cannot spread in the air or by water or food.

#### How do you get the Ebola virus?

Direct contact with



Body fluids of a person who is sick with or has died from Ebola. (blood, vomit, urine, feces, sweat,



#### Objects contaminated with the

virus (needles, medical equipment)

Infected fruit bats or primates (apes and monkeys)

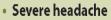
#### Who Gets Ebola?

People most at risk of getting Ebola are



- People with a travel history to countries with widespread transmission or exposure to a person with Ebola.
- Healthcare providers taking care of patients with Ebola.
- Friends and family who have had unprotected direct contact with blood or body fluids of a person sick with Ebola.

#### • Fever



- Muscle pain
- Feeling very tired (fatigue)
- Vomiting and diarrhea develop after 3–6 days
- Weakness (can be severe)
- Stomach pain
- Unexplained bleeding
  or bruising

#### Signs and Symptoms of Ebola



The signs and symptoms of Ebola can appear 2 to 21 days after exposure. The average time is 8 to 10 days. Symptoms of Ebola develop over several days and become progressively more severe.

• People with Ebola cannot spread the virus until symptoms appear.

R

- Risk factors:
  - ill patients
  - Animal ownership and contact
  - Activities in close contact with animals
- Appropriate pet species for appropriate individuals
- Animals as sentinels of disease



### **Reverse zoonosis**

Diseases that do not normally occur in dogs and cats but can be passed from infected people to their pets, which can make them very sick.

– e.g. Tuberculosis, MRSA, Flu



### Prevention

- Standard precautions
- Vaccinate pets
- Provide protection against external parasites like fleas and ticks
- Periodic physical examination for pets
- Test and treat internal parasite

