

ABNF

Policy Brief



The Association of Black Nursing Faculty (ABNF)

- Professional Development
- Encouragement
- Support
- Communication

The mission of ABNF is to address health issues of concern to the Black community through the scholarly activities of the Black Nursing Professoriate

ABNF Statement on the Ebola Outbreak

Policy Statement

The Association of Black Nursing Faculty (ABNF) strongly advocates for the continuous referencing of Ebola guidelines as developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in this evolving situation. We are closely monitoring the modifications to practice protocol, and will share our understanding of the most current revisions to the guidelines from authoritative sources, to keep the ABNF membership abreast of the safest manner by which care can be delivered to patients diagnosed with the Ebola virus.

Toward that end we extend to the nurses who have contracted the disease in caring for their patient(s) our support and recognition of the tremendous sacrifices they have made in maintaining the commitment of our discipline, to ensure that all patients entrusted in our care receive safe and quality care at the highest level of standards. In addition, we wish to honor the contributions of Nina Pham, RN and Amber Vinson, RN, who have courageously led the nation in demonstrating the true dedication of nurses in their effort to manage the care of their patient diagnosed with the Ebola virus. Our prayers are with these nurses and their families. In addition, we extend our supportive thoughts to the colleagues and healthcare workers who assist in the management and care of these patients.

Recommendations

ABNF advocates for the recognition of the nurses who are called upon daily to

meet the healthcare needs of their patients diagnosed with infectious diseases, and who understand that their

professional commitment is to abandon no patient regardless of the diagnosis.

ABNF supports measures to address the Ebola virus outbreak made by the American Hospital Association, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Nurses Association, the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, and others in their call for objective and evidence-based approaches to the management of this public health concern.

ABNF joins with nursing and other healthcare organizations in the movement toward ensuring that only objective and scientific information will be utilized in the establishment of national guidelines and protocols in the management of the Ebola outbreak, both in national and global arenas.

ABNF applauds the efforts of the Obama Administration in its endeavor to address this situation in protecting the citizens of this great nation.

National Conference Call

On Monday, Oct 20 , 2014 , from 1-2 p.m. ET, officials from CDC, the Health and Human Services (HHS) Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), CDC, and HHS Intergovernmental and External Affairs will host an Ebola preparedness call for



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hospitals and health systems. Hospital representatives should visit the [ASPR webpage](#) for more information. The dial-in number: 888-395-7964; participant code 9622268. The call will be recorded for later retrieval. Space is limited. We recommend dialing in early.

ABNF Pledge

ABNF is issuing its pledge of commitment to:

- Collaborate with other healthcare organizations in identifying measures to ensure the delivery of the highest level of care, with a special emphasis on addressing the healthcare needs of underserved populations
- Work together with other organizations in the dissemination of evidence-based guidelines to control and contain the spread of the Ebola virus
- Sustain efforts to ensure that underserved patients, families and communities will be kept abreast of the latest treatment modalities in the rendering of the highest standards of care
- Closely monitor recommendations from authoritative sources on the management and treatment of the Ebola virus
- Encourage the ABNF membership to partner with nursing leaders and others in the establishment of care monitoring procedures
- Regularly check the CDC website for updates
- Maintain timely postings to the ABNF website at www.abnf.net, and request that our members follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ABNFpage

ABNF Acknowledgement

As the recognized voice of minority nurse academicians, we are enormously grateful for the knowledge, expertise, dedication and commitment of our membership, and our focus on addressing the healthcare needs of the vulnerable communities we serve.

As with past outbreaks of HIV, Legionnaires, swine

flu and other infectious diseases, it is the discipline of nursing that is called upon to lead in the delivery of direct patient care. Recognized as the most trusted healthcare discipline, we are again pressed into service to calm the fears and anxieties of our patients and healthcare colleagues in addressing this national public health issue.

References

The authority for infectious disease protocols is the CDC, and we strongly encourage you to review the important information and resources available through the following links:

[Clinician Information for Ebola in U.S. Health Care Settings](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/clinician-information-us-healthcare-settings.html)

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/clinician-information-us-healthcare-settings.html>

[Tools for Protecting Health Care Personnel](http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/prevent/ppe.html)

<http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/prevent/ppe.html>

[Checklist for Patients Being Evaluated for Ebola](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/checklist-patients-evaluated-us-evd.pdf)

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/checklist-patients-evaluated-us-evd.pdf>