You are being given this Fact Sheet because your sample(s) were tested for Ebola virus disease (EVD) using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Ebola Virus VP40 Real-Time RT-PCR (EBOV NP rRT-PCR) Assay. Testing was done because your healthcare provider believes you may have been exposed to Ebola virus.

This Fact Sheet contains information to help you understand the risks and benefits of using this test for the diagnosis of EVD. After reading this Fact Sheet, if you have questions or would like to discuss the information provided further, please talk to your healthcare provider.

**What is Ebola virus disease (EVD)?**
EVD is caused by the Ebola virus. Ebola virus infection is a severe, often-fatal disease in humans that has appeared sporadically since it was first recognized in 1976.

**What is the EBOV VP40 rRT-PCR Assay?**
The test is designed to detect Ebola virus in blood or urine samples.

**Why was my sample tested?**
Your sample(s) were tested because your healthcare provider believes you may have been exposed to Ebola virus based on your signs and symptoms, and because:

- You live in or have recently traveled to a place where Ebola virus infection is known to occur, and/or
- Because you have another possible exposure to Ebola virus.

Typical signs and symptoms of EVD include fever, severe headache, joint and muscle aches, weakness, diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain, and lack of appetite. Some patients may also develop a rash, red eyes, hiccups, cough, sore throat, chest pain, difficulty breathing, difficulty swallowing, or unexplained bleeding inside and outside of the body.

The sample(s) collected from you were tested to help find out whether you may be infected with Ebola virus.

**What are the known and potential risks and benefits of the test?**
Potential risks include:

- Possible discomfort or other complications that can happen during sample collection.
- Risk that the test result is incorrect (see below for more information).

### Possible Complications

- Ebola virus can spread from person-to-person by contact with blood and body fluids (e.g., saliva, sweat, urine, semen, feces or vomit) from an infected person(s).
- Ebola virus can spread by handling objects (like needles and syringes) that have been contaminated with Ebola virus.
- Ebola virus may be spread as a result of handling bushmeat (wild animals hunted for food) and/or contact with infected bats collected from or within areas of known local Ebola virus transmission (e.g., Uganda, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon).
- Ebola virus *only* spreads to others when a person shows signs or symptoms of being sick (e.g., fever, diarrhea, vomiting, etc.).

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**Where can I go for updates and more information?** The most up-to-date information on Ebola virus and EVD is available at the CDC General website: [https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/index.html). In addition, please also contact your healthcare provider with any questions/concerns.
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