



# MARBURG HEMORRHAGIC FEVER FACT SHEET

## WHAT IS MARBURG HEMORRHAGIC FEVER?

Marburg hemorrhagic fever (Marburg HF) is a rare but severe hemorrhagic fever which affects both humans and non-human primates. It is caused by a virus.

## HOW DO YOU GET MARBURG HF?

It is unknown how Marburg virus first spreads from animals to humans. It is guess that unprotected contact with infected bat feces can lead to infection. In humans, the virus can spread person to person by:

- Direct contact with bodily fluids from infected persons
- Contact with contaminated objects with infectious blood or tissues.

## SYMPTOMS

Symptoms may appear anywhere from 5 to 10 days after exposure to the virus. In the early stages, symptoms may include fever, chills, and headache. After about 5 fays, a rash on the chest, back, and stomach may appear. Nausea, vomiting, chest pain, a sore throat, abdominal pain, and diarrhea may then appear.

## TREATMENT

There is no specific treatment for Marburg hemorrhagic fever. Supportive therapy can be provided. Discuss treatment options with your doctor.

## PREVENTION

- Avoid fruit bats and sick non-human primates in central Africa
- Wear protective gowns, masks, and gloves around infected individuals

## DPHD EFFORTS

Reports of suspected and confirmed cases of disease are made to the Delaware Public Health District (DPHD). The DPHD investigates potential sources of illness, conducts surveillance for the spread of illness, and engages in community outreach and education.