NATIONAL NURSES UNITED URGES ACTION NOW!

TELL PRES. OBAMA AND CONGRESS TAKE ACTION NOW!

On behalf of registered nurses and other healthcare workers across the United States, we understand that the only way to adequately confront the Ebola crisis, which the World Health Organization has termed the most significant health crisis in modern history, is for the President to invoke his executive authority to mandate uniform, national standards and protocols that all hospitals must follow to safely protect patients, registered nurses and other front-line healthcare workers, and the public. Every healthcare employer must be directed to follow the Precautionary Principle and institute optimal protocols and personal protective equipment for Ebola that meets the highest standards used by Nebraska Medical Center, or a higher standard, including:

- Full-body hazmat suits that meet the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) F1670 standard for blood penetration, the ASTM F1671 standard for viral penetration which leaves no skin exposed or unprotected.
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health-approved powered air purifying respirators with an assigned protection factor of at least 50 — or a higher standard as appropriate.
- At least two direct-care registered nurses caring for each Ebola patient with additional RNs assigned as needed (based on the direct-care RN's professional judgment), with no additional patient care assignments.
- Continuous interactive training with the RNs who are exposed to patients, continuous updated training and education for all RNs that is responsive to the changing nature of disease, and continuous interactive training and expertise from facilities where state-of-the-art disease containment is occurring.
- If the Employer has a program with standards that exceed those used by Nebraska Medical Center, the higher standard shall be used. The Ebola pandemic and the exposure of healthcare workers to the virus represents a clear and present danger to public health. We know that without these mandates to healthcare facilities, we are putting registered nurses, physicians, and other healthcare workers at extreme risk. They are our first line of defense. We would not send soldiers to the battlefield without armor and weapons.

In conclusion, not one more patient, nurse, or healthcare worker should be put at risk due to a lack of healthcare facility preparedness. The United States should be setting the example on how to contain and eradicate the Ebola virus. Nothing short of President Obama's mandate, that optimal safety standards apply, will be acceptable to the nurses of this nation. We demand protection for all healthcare workers.

NAME »	CELL PHONE »	EMAIL »

RNRN RN Response Network

National Nurses United

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www.NationalNursesUnited.org