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I have chosen to write my Research Project on the Ebola Virus. In this essay I will discuss, what Ebola is, the signs and symptoms as well as how the disease is transmitted and about vaccines for the disease. What is Ebola? Ebola, which is also formerly known as Ebola hemorrhagic fever, is a rare and deadly disease that's caused by infection with one of the Ebola virus species.

There are five identified Ebola virus species, four of them are known to cause diseases in humans. U1 The signs and symptoms of Ebola are as follows:- Fever- Severe headache- Muscle pain- Weakness- Fatigue- Diarrhea- Vomiting- Abdominal pain- Unexplained hemorrhage Symptoms may appear anywhere from 2 to 21 days after exposure, but the average is 8 to 10 days. Those who recover from Ebola develop antibodies that last for at least 10 years U2 .

Where is Ebola the most prevalent? Ebola viruses are found in several African countries. How is Ebola transmitted? When an infection occurs in humans, the virus can be spread through direct contact. This can include blood or body fluids such as urine, saliva, sweat, feces, vomit, breast milk, and semen. The transmission can also be from objects such as needles and syringes that have been contaminated.

Ebola can also possibly be transported from coming in contact with semen from a man who has recovered from Ebola. Ebola is not spread through the air, water or in general by food. How can Ebola be prevented from transmission? You can prevent it from being transmitted by wearing disposable gloves and gowns when possible as well as proper cleaning and usage of equipment, such as needles and syringes.

If instruments are not disposable then they must be sterilized before using them on the next patient. Is there a vaccine currently available? There is currently no FDA-approved vaccine or medicine for Ebola. There have been experimental vaccines, but they have not been fully tested for safety or effectiveness. Is this disease curable? Fatal? How is it cured, or how does it become fatal? There is no cure for Ebola but the following basic interventions, when used early can significantly improve the chances of survival: Providing intravenous fluids, and balancing electrolytes.

Maintaining oxygen status and blood pressure.