

SYMPTOMS

The symptom onset is sudden, with high fever, headache, severe malaise, muscle pain, and chills. After 15 days of the onset, may appear a maculopapular rash in the trunk (chest, back, and stomach), with chest pain, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, and diarrhea. Severe symptoms are jaundice, confusion, pancreas inflammation, severe weight loss, shock, liver failure, and massive hemorrhagic.



TRANSMISSION

Virus Distribution and Spread

Marburg Virus Disease is a rare but severe infection that affects humans and non-human primates. Initially, humans Marburg infection results from prolonged exposure to mines or caves inhabited by Rousettus bat colonies.

The transmission occurs through human-to-human by direct contact (through broken skin or mucous membranes) with the blood, secretions, organs or other bodily fluids of infected people, and with surfaces and materials (e.g. bedding, clothing) contaminated with these fluids.

Burial ceremonies that involve direct contact with the body of the deceased, can also contribute to the transmission of Marburg.

RECOMMENDATION

Prevention

Preventive measures are not very clear because the transmission from animals to humans remains an area of ongoing research. The general measures are:

- Avoid prolonged exposure to mines or caves inhabited by Rousettus bat colonies.
- Avoid close physical contact with infected people. It is recommended to use protective clothes, gloves, and masks.
- Try to keep the infected person in strict isolation.
- Regular hand washing is recommended.
- Male survivors of Marburg disease may practice safe sex for 12 months from the onset of symptoms.

Treatment

There is no specific treatment for Marburg virus disease. Hospitalization is required in most of the cases.