



October 9, 2024

Dominic Mancini
Deputy Director
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, DC

Subject: Request for Emergency Review and Clearance

Dear Mr. Mancini:

Pursuant to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) procedures established at 5 CFR Part 1320, *Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public*, I request that the proposed information collection project, 2024 Marburg Air Entry Questionnaires be processed in accordance with section 1320.13, Emergency Processing.

I have determined that this information must be collected prior to the expiration of time periods established under Part 1320, and that this information is essential to the CDC's ability to assess risk of symptoms or exposure to Marburg virus disease (MVD) in travelers coming to the United States from areas affected by an outbreak of MVD originating in Rwanda. On Sept. 27, 2024, the Republic of Rwanda's Ministry of Health reported cases of MVD in the country, including in some patients in health facilities. Illnesses have been reported in several provinces around the country. As of Oct. 8, 2024, Rwanda has recorded 56 illnesses and 12 deaths from Marburg virus disease. Given the rapidly changing situation and out of an abundance of caution, CDC has been directed to implement enhanced public health measures with goal of preventing importation of Marburg into the United States and spread within U.S. communities.

MVD is a severe illness in humans with extremely high case fatality rates. The scale of this MVD outbreak may continue to worsen. The best strategy to control the spread of the virus to the United States is to stop it at the source with core public health interventions, including case finding, contact tracing, and exit screening of travelers. As part of a layered intervention strategy, the U.S. government is supplementing activities in support of the Government of Rwanda with an enhanced public health entry risk assessment for travelers arriving from countries affected by the MVD outbreak that originated in Rwanda.

To further protect U.S. communities from an imported case of MVD, the United States must be prepared to respond domestically by providing state and local health departments and healthcare facilities with the necessary assessments and questionnaires that can assist in identifying symptoms of or high-risk exposures to MVD in travelers arriving from areas affected by the outbreak. With assistance from the Department of Homeland Security, CDC will conduct these emergency assessments at designated U.S. airports that are receiving travelers from the outbreak areas, with assistance from the Department of Homeland Security. This system of risk assessment and triage will facilitate transmission of information to assist state and local health departments to complete a 21-day follow-up period and prevent introduction and spread of MVD into the United States.



CDC cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures due to the public harm that will result if routine processing of this request is required. Given the quickly changing situation, it is not feasible for CDC to consult with members of the public or other agencies or organizations regarding this information collection. CDC requests authorization to use information collection instruments at select U.S. ports of entry for 180 days to mitigate the risk of the importation and spread of MVD in the United States. If an emergency approval is not granted, then the spread of MVD to the United States is more likely.

Please provide an approval/disapproval determination of this request to collect information under an emergency clearance by 5pm ET, October 11, 2024.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel B. Jernigan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Daniel B. Jernigan, MD MPH
Director, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention