

Calif. Ebola rules require quarantine for some travelers

By Sammy Caiola, Sacramento Bee

Just two days after the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended a 21-day isolation period for travelers at the highest risk of Ebola, the California Department of Public Health has issued its own quarantine order, one of a handful of states to do so.

The order, released Wednesday by department Director Dr. Ron Chapman, says any person arriving in California from an Ebola-affected country who had contact with an Ebola-infected person will be quarantined for 21 days. This policy, like the ones issued by New York and New Jersey, appears to be stricter than that issued by the CDC on Monday, which only applies to people deemed "high-risk" because they were caring for an infected person without proper protective clothing or were exposed to the virus through needle-stick or injury.

Ebola-affected areas, as defined by the CDC, currently include Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. Travelers returning from those countries who did not come into contact with someone with a confirmed case of Ebola will not be subject to quarantine, according to the state order. There have been no confirmed cases of Ebola in California.

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