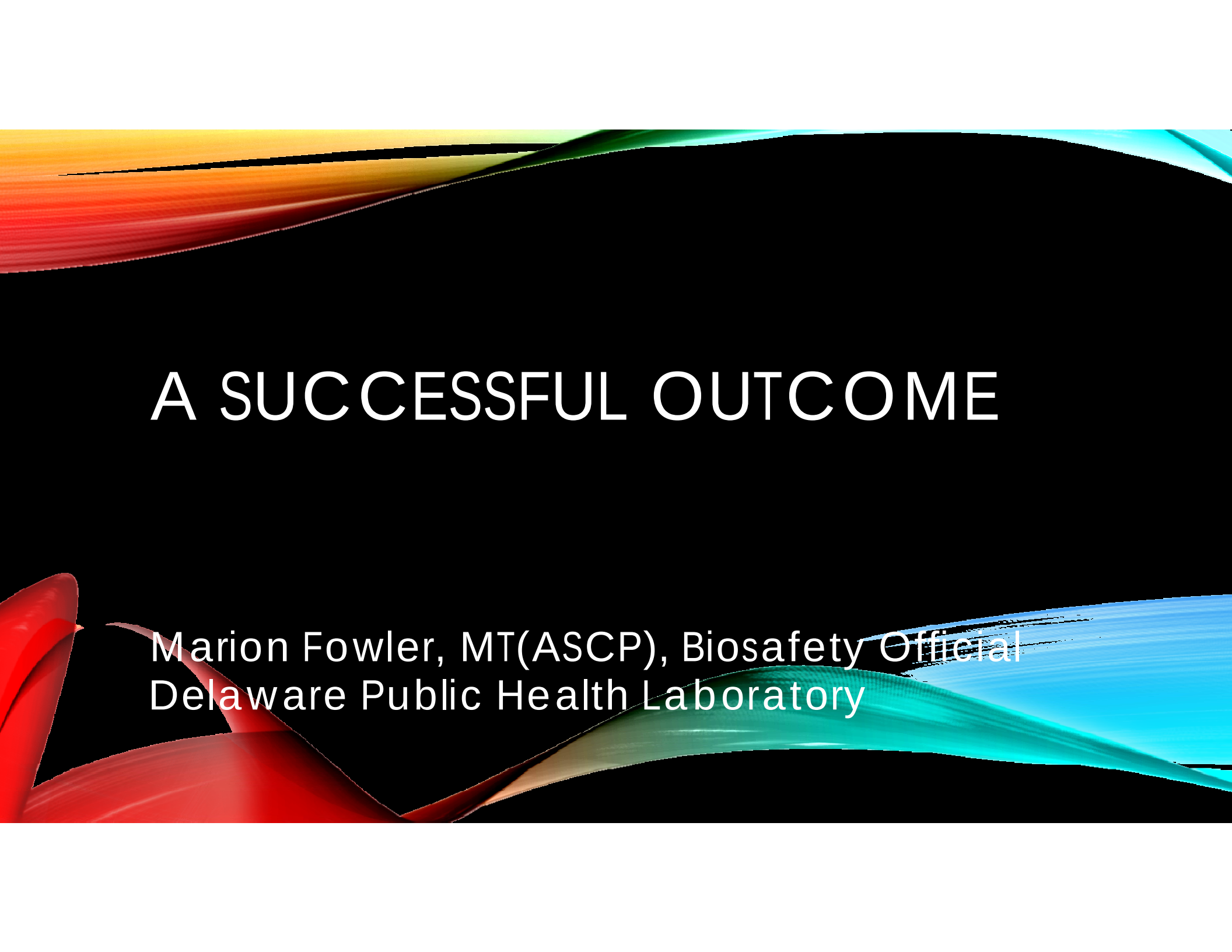




A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME

Marion Fowler, MT(ASCP), Biosafety Official
Delaware Public Health Laboratory



PRE-EBOLA OUTBREAK 2014

- Saint Francis Emergency Medical Services – provides transportation for suspect highly infectious patients
- Internal Drills with individual organizations, packaging and shipping with sentinel labs
- Statewide Drills, Exercise and Tabletops – Bioterrorism, Chemical Terrorism, Public Health Emergency

Participants:

Division of Public Health

Emergency Medical Services and Preparedness Section

Office of Infectious Disease Epidemiology

Director's Office

Office of Health Risk Communications

Delaware Public Health Laboratory

PRE-EBOLA OUTBREAK 2014

Participants:

Department of Defense Dover Air Force Base
31st Civil Support Team
FBI
Delaware's sentinel hospitals and laboratories
St. Francis Emergency Medical Services
State partners (DNREC, Department of Agriculture)
CDC

Delaware is a small state. Why do we need all this preparation?

Many targets!!

Dover Airforce Base

Dover Speedway (2 races per year)

Firefly and other high volume entertainment activities

Economic Welfare (chickens)



LATE 2014 TO EARLY 2015

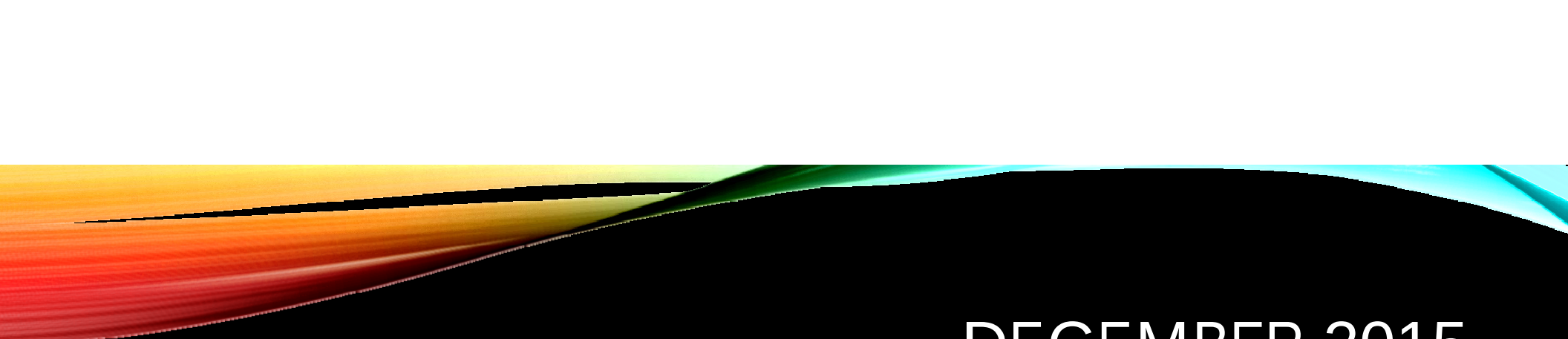
- **Delaware Public Health Laboratory** received kits and reagents for Ebola testing
- DPHL SOP written to include the proper packaging and shipping of the specimen, pre-testing charts for set-up of BSCs, reagents and other supplies
 - Description of job (Ebola “tester”, Ebola “buddy”, Laboratory Manager, Courier, etc.)
 - PPE needed for all aspects of the test
 - Reporting of results internally and externally
- Training
 - 4-6 exercises from 1st notification to reporting of results
 - PPE training

WHY: FEAR!



EXTERNAL PARTNER TRAINING APRIL – NOVEMBER 2015

- DPHL trained all Hospital Laboratories and Ebola teams
 - Chain of Custody for a Preparedness Sample
 - Packaging and Shipping for a Category A sample
 - Exercised packaging and shipping a purple top for Ebola testing
- Laboratory Preparedness Advisory Committee Meeting (2 per year)
 - PPE training
 - Ebola Risk Assessments to sentinel labs (APHL)



DECEMBER 2015

- CDC visited two of Delaware's hospitals to perform Ebola Readiness Assessments
 - Facility Infrastructure
 - Patient Transportation
 - Laboratory
 - Staffing
 - Training
 - PPE
 - Waste Management
 - Worker Safety
 - Environmental Services
 - Clinical Management
 - Operations Coordination



NO NOTICE DRILL 2015

- An airman presented at the DAFB morning sick call with symptoms consistent with EVD including a recent travel history to a West African country experiencing an EVD outbreak. The DAFB Medical Clinic took actions to isolate the patient, protect their staff, and notify the DPH on-call epidemiologist in the Office of Infectious Disease Epidemiology (OIDE). DAFB patient
- St. Francis EMS transported patient
- Wilmington Hospital accepted patient
- Wilmington Hospital and DPHL continued with exercise (draw, courier, testing)

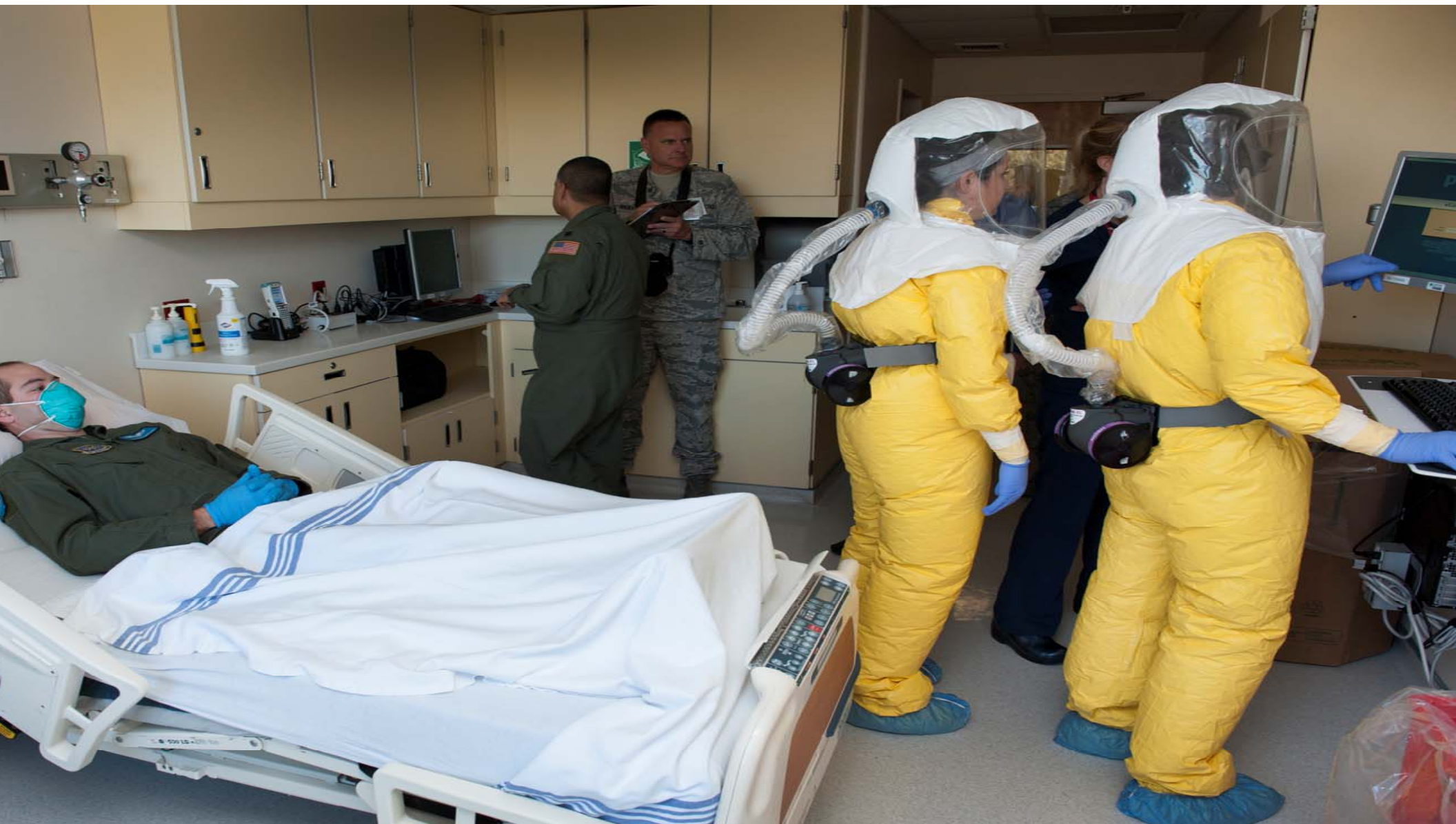
Follow up conference calls between individual partners

Follow up conference call involving all partners

After Action Report: Each section made corrections, additions, etc.









APRIL 2016 INCIDENT

- Patient:
 - Self-reported to a satellite Emergency Department with symptoms consistent with Ebola.
 - Returned from Liberia after attending the funeral of her father
- ED:
 - Applied the three “I’s”
 - Identify
 - Isolate
 - Inform



DE PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

- Resulting Changes from No Notice Drill (December 2015):
 - 1. Map to DPHL with Preparedness Door Entrance marked
 - 2. Sample draw-packaging as Cat A, 2 boxes (1 for each purple top tube)
 - 3. When to call for courier for transport to DPHL
- Resulting Changes from Incident (April 2016):
 - 1. Packaging taking too long-replaced Cat A Shippers Declaration with a transportation form since not a commercial courier
 - 2. DPHL has a contract with World Courier so now packaging both purple top tubes in same secondary container.



TAKE HOME LESSON

- **DPHL was prepared to test the Ebola specimen. All employees were calm, felt comfortable in their PPE and their ability to perform the Ebola testing in a timely and accurate manner.**
- **Management**
- **Courier**
- **Staff**