Limit exposure by keeping distance

- Ebola is only spread through contact with bodily fluids of symptomatic patients. It is not transmitted via air, and is not likely to be transmitted via inanimate objects, such as money.
- You are considered at low risk of exposure from short-interaction contacts, such as at the cash register.
- Close contact is defined as prolonged exposure within 3 feet.

Wash hands regularly

- This will help protect you from transmission of a number of much more common diseases, including flu and norovirus.
- Use soap and water, rinse and dry thoroughly.
- If soap and water are unavailable, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Disinfect surfaces

- For surfaces that are regularly touched, use 10% bleach or disinfectant that is labeled as effective against unenveloped viruses such as Norovirus.
- If cleanup of bodily fluids of a suspected Ebola patient is required, ensure that safe procedures are used:
  1. Block off the area until cleanup and disinfection is complete. No visitors or unprotected staff members should be able to access the area.
  2. Use appropriate personal protective equipment (gloves, gown, eye protection, face shield).
  3. Wipe up the bodily fluid as much as possible with paper towel or other absorbent material.
  4. Gently pour disinfectant (or 10% bleach solution) onto all contaminated areas.
  5. Let disinfectant remain on contaminated area for 20 minutes and then wipe up remaining bleach solution.
  6. Remove gloves and protective equipment carefully and place in a biohazard bag with all other soiled cleaning materials.
  7. Double bag and secure biohazard bags in a puncture-resistant container. This material is considered hazardous material and must be transported and discarded properly.
  8. Thoroughly wash hands with soap and water.

FOOTNOTES

1. EPA listing of disinfectants effective against Norovirus
2. CDC. Interim Guidance for Environmental Infection Control in Hospitals for Ebola Virus.
3. Department of Transportation Guidance for Transporting Ebola Contaminated Items, a Category A Infectious Substance