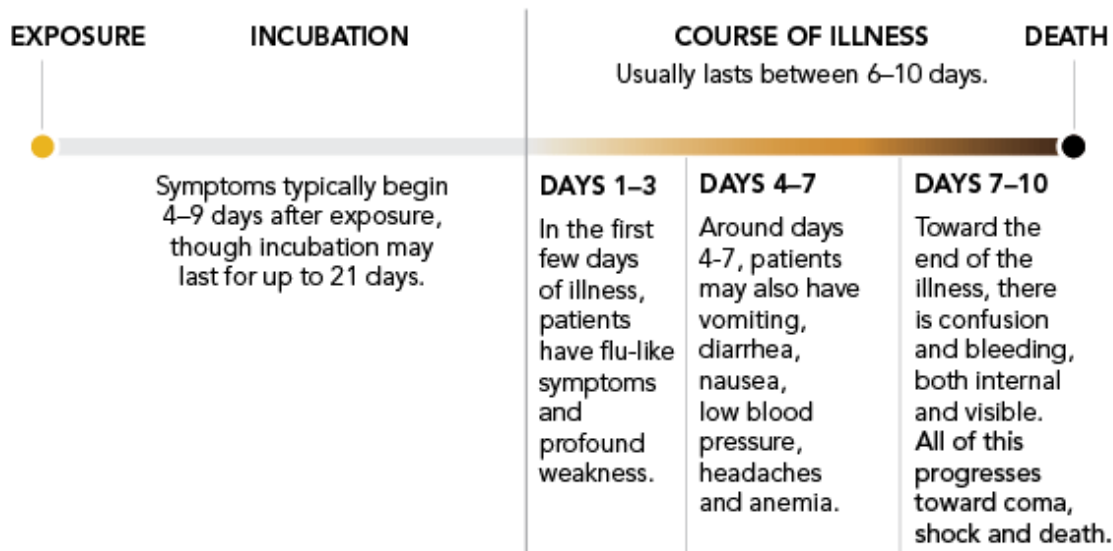


# How Ebola Symptoms Progress

Infection with the Ebola virus can lead to flu-like symptoms, bleeding (both visible and internal) and, in many cases, death. The current outbreak has a mortality rate of around 60 percent.



Source: Dr. Nahid Bhadelia M.D., M.A., Associate Hospital Epidemiologist, Boston Medical Center Director of Infection Control, National Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratories, Boston University

## WHAT DO THE SYMPTOMS LOOK LIKE?

Ebola generally starts with flu-like symptoms. Though it's known for the extreme hemorrhagic symptoms -- the bleeding out of the eyes, etc. -- not everyone will experience these. "In fact, only 20 percent of people will have [these extreme symptoms]" Bhadelia said. "Some people may succumb to the illness before it gets to that point, some may have minor bleeding, some may just have bleeding of the gums, or bruising."

The flu-like symptoms typically occur in the first stages of the illness, before the person gets sicker and starts to experience more severe symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea and low blood pressure. The extreme bleeding occurs toward the end of the illness. People who die from infection with Ebola virus usually end up dying from multi-organ failure and shock. "The shock is from the bleeding -- now you're bleeding in different parts of your body, and the blood is leaking out of your blood vessels," Bhadelia explained. "Even if [you don't have] the hemorrhagic features, you're still leaking blood."