



# Ethics of Contact Tracing and Technological Tools

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# Learning Objectives

- ▶ Define and provide examples of important terms, such as *privacy*, *autonomy*, and *public good*
- ▶ Describe the balance between protecting public health and limits to privacy and autonomy
- ▶ Provide examples of the balance between keeping information private and protecting public health
- ▶ Identify a selection of technological tools that have been developed or used for each step of case investigation and contact tracing

# Contact Tracing as a Common Public Health Tool



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# Contact Tracing Protects the Health of the Public

If we can limit contact between infectious people  
and others, we can limit opportunities for  
SARS-CoV-2 to be transmitted

# Contact Tracing Is Used Every Day

- ▶ Contact tracing is a public health intervention that is used every day to stop disease transmission
- ▶ Examples:
  - ▶ Tuberculosis
  - ▶ Syphilis
  - ▶ HIV
  - ▶ Ebola (contact tracing was a key strategy to end the Ebola outbreak in West Africa)

## Contact tracing by boat in West Africa



Photograph: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). 2014 Ebola Outbreak Response > Ebola Report > [Report: Tracing Contacts](#). Accessed May 5, 2020.