

October 24, 2014

Dear ISB Community,

As we are all already aware, there is a growing concern about the Ebola virus disease (EVD) worldwide. The epidemic that has been confirmed in West Africa is the largest in history, but to date, there has not been a confirmed case in Serbia. The Serbian authorities have increased surveillance measures at the Nikola Tesla International Airport.

As a school we continue to communicate with the health authorities in Serbia and the National/International Public Health Institute on this important health issue. More information on Ebola virus disease can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/resources/index.html> People who recover from Ebola infection develop antibodies that last for at least 10 years. No licensed vaccines are available yet, but two potential vaccines are currently undergoing human safety testing. There is a range of potential treatments but as of now there is not yet a proven treatment for Ebola virus disease.

You can access additional, updated information at the following websites for the World Health Organization and U.S. Center for Disease Control.

- For Key Facts about Ebola <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs103/en/>
- For up to date information from WHO about the Ebola Outbreak in West Africa: <http://www.who.int/csr/don/archive/disease/ebola/en/>
- For the latest News about the Ebola from WHO: <http://www.afro.who.int/en/clusters-a-programmes/dpc/epidemic-a-pandemic-alert-and-response/outbreak-news.html>

The most simple prevention method during an outbreak is to not touch patients and their excretions, bodily fluids and contaminated materials.

Here at ISB we have taken the following precautionary measures:

- The contingency plan for Ebola outbreak in the region and our school is in place.
- We have shared our ISB contingency plan with other international schools world-wide and received samples from other schools for comparison, in order to ensure that our plan is complete.
- We are in communication with local medical authorities.
- We have emphasized with students the importance of thorough and regular hand washing.
- All hygiene measures and procedures are regularly reviewed with our maintenance and cleaning staff, and the latest update took place this week.
- We are actively monitoring the status of our school attendance and information about the status of the EVD outbreak worldwide.

We want to emphasize that we consider the health and safety of students and families to be of the highest priority. Should there be an instance of an outbreak in Serbia the school would work closely with Serbian Health Authorities and would comply with all directives from Serbian Public Health Services.

Please feel free to contact our School Physician on Telephone 011/ 206 9913 (ibalos@isb.rs) or to communicate with Director Rob Risch (rrisch@isb.rs) regarding any concerns you may have.

As always, we stand ready and at your service.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lilly Balos
ISB Physician