

## **Message about the Ebola Outbreak from the IJPC-SE's Executive Committee**

While the IJPC-SE is not directly involved in the effort to control the Ebola outbreak, as public health professionals we feel compelled to provide a few resources that may be helpful to those professionals who are on the front lines.

Ebola is an example of how deficient healthcare and public health infrastructures can lead to a public health disaster that may threaten the health of large segments of the global population. We commend the work and dedication of the health care workers who have tried for months to contain the epidemic in West Africa in their efforts to contain a deadly outbreak despite a lack of resources.

Please see the following links for some information about Ebola, which were provided in late October 2014 at the request of the Executive Committee by Dr. Stanley H. Weiss, Immediate Past-Chair, IJPC-SE. We are posting these links to offer support and solidarity with a global concern, and to aid the reader in finding resources. This posting should not be seen as an endorsement of any particular site, nor of one site over another. As with all rapidly evolving scientific matters, we urge periodic review of a broad range of sources, as well as the published literature.

1. A 22-minute lecture that Dr. Michael Osterholm gave at the John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health on October 14, 2014. He has long been one of the leading infectious disease epidemiologists in the world. This talk can help to broaden our conceptual frameworks:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=UkMKUa0sxBQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=UkMKUa0sxBQ)

2. Information on Ebola from the CDC:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/>

3. Website of the Department of Health of the State of New Jersey. Includes information on the response to the outbreak:

<http://www.state.nj.us/health/>

4. [NIH begins early human clinical trial of VSV Ebola vaccine](#) (October 22, 2014)

5. [NIH Ebola Update: Working Toward Treatments and Vaccines](#) (October 14, 2014)

6. A short history of quarantine:

<http://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/historyquarantine.html>

### **Post script:**

On November 3 2014, the President of the American College of Epidemiology (ACE), Dr. Melissa J. Perry, sent a communication to ACE members containing the following on Ebola. Please note that ACE is a member society in the IJPC-SE.

*At a time when the largest-ever outbreak of the Ebola virus is the subject of worldwide attention and concern, our community can play a vital role in educating people and responding to the issues that Ebola presents for U.S. citizens, as well as those living in West Africa and elsewhere in the world. Here are a few good resources with some of the latest available information on the virus, including case counts, exposure risks, and how to respond to people who express fear about their risk for the disease:*

[http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/resources/index.html?s\\_cid=cs\\_021](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/resources/index.html?s_cid=cs_021)

<http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/ebola/en/>

<https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/ebola>