

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Michael Hill Health Agency Director

Penny Borenstein, MD, MPH Health Officer/Public Health Director

PROVIDER HEALTH ADVISORY

Date: March 5, 2021

Contact: Rick Rosen, MD, MPH (805)781-5500, frosen@co.slo.ca.us

Screening of Symptomatic Persons for Travel History due to Ebola Outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Guinea

On Friday, February 26, 2021, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced that travelers from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Guinea coming into the United States will be funneled through six airports, including Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), where these travelers will be screened for symptoms of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). The DRC Ministry of Health had declared on February 7 an EVD outbreak in the North Kivu region, an area which previously experienced a major outbreak in 2018-2020, and Guinea had declared on February 14 an EVD outbreak in the rural Nzérékoré Region which borders Liberia. The CDC will transmit collected passenger information to state and local health departments so that travelers can be followed up and monitored for 21 days after leaving the DRC or Guinea.

The risk for importation of Ebola virus into the United States and California is low but not zero. Therefore, CDPH continues to remind healthcare providers in hospitals, emergency departments, and clinics to have protocols in place to ask patients with signs or symptoms of acute and possibly infectious illness about recent international travel.

The County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department asks that providers notify us immediately by telephone for any patients suspected of having Ebola Virus Disease. You may reach us at **(805)781-5500**.

For more information on EVD, please refer to:

CDPH Ebola virus website:

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/EbolaVirusDisease.aspx

CDC website: https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/

WHO website DRC: https://www.who.int/csr/don/10-february-2021-ebola-drc/en/

WHO website Guinea: https://www.who.int/csr/don/17-february-2021-ebola-gin/en/