

Managing Lassa Fever

Emory University Resources:

- Session Resources
 - Post session resources (podcast of webinar, presentation slides, responses to unanswered questions) can be found on our website
 - <https://med.emory.edu/departments/medicine/divisions/infectious-diseases/serious-communicable-diseases-program/covid-19-resources/access-past-echo-recordings.html>
- Region 4 Situation Report
 - <https://med.emory.edu/departments/medicine/divisions/infectious-diseases/serious-communicable-diseases-program/covid-19-resources/region-4-situation-reports1.html>
- Register for upcoming sessions on our website
 - <https://med.emory.edu/departments/medicine/divisions/infectious-diseases/serious-communicable-diseases-program/covid-19-resources/echo-upcoming-session.html>
- HHS Region IV Emory University SCDP Resources
 - <https://med.emory.edu/departments/medicine/divisions/infectious-diseases/serious-communicable-diseases-program/covid-19-resources/index.html>
- Region IV Concept of Operations (CONOPS) - Regional Partners and Contacts
 - <https://netec.org/about-netec/partners-regional-contacts/#regional-contacts>
- Emory Serious Communicable Diseases Unit – Additional Resources
 - <https://med.emory.edu/departments/medicine/divisions/infectious-diseases/serious-communicable-diseases-program/ebola-resources/index.html>
- NETEC
 - <https://netec.org/>
- NETEC – National Special Pathogens System of Care (NSPS)
 - <https://netec.org/nsps/>

General External Resources:

Disclaimer - Our program provides additional resources that may be of use to our session attendees. This list is not inclusive, nor does our program endorse specific organizations.

- Healthmap.org (Location based alerts)
- Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP), University of Minnesota (UNM)
- The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) - Global Center for Health Security: The Transmission
- Global Biodefense
- CDC – Division of High-Consequence Pathogens and Pathology
- Georgia Department of Public Health – Travel Clinical Assistant (TCA)
 - <https://dph.georgia.gov/TravelClinicalAssistant>
- ProMED – International Society for Infectious Diseases

Please continue to check your local and state public health websites for additional resources and guidance.

Session Resources:

Reference on survival characteristics in Ebola

- <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4734506/>

CDC – About Lassa Fever

- <https://www.cdc.gov/lassa-fever/about/index.html#:~:text=Ribavirin%2C%20an%20antiviral%20drug%2C%20has,hydration%2C%20and%20treatment%20of%20symptoms>

Session Reminders:

- When treating patients with Lassa Fever supportive therapy is crucial to increase chances of survival. In addition, providers should utilize best practice treatment options for their region which may consist of, but is not limited to, Ribavirin (an antiviral drug that is most effective when given soon after a patient becomes sick), Monoclonal antibodies, Favipiravir, or Convalescent Plasma.

Situation Report:

Region 4 Special Pathogens of Concern Situation Report



19 December 2024



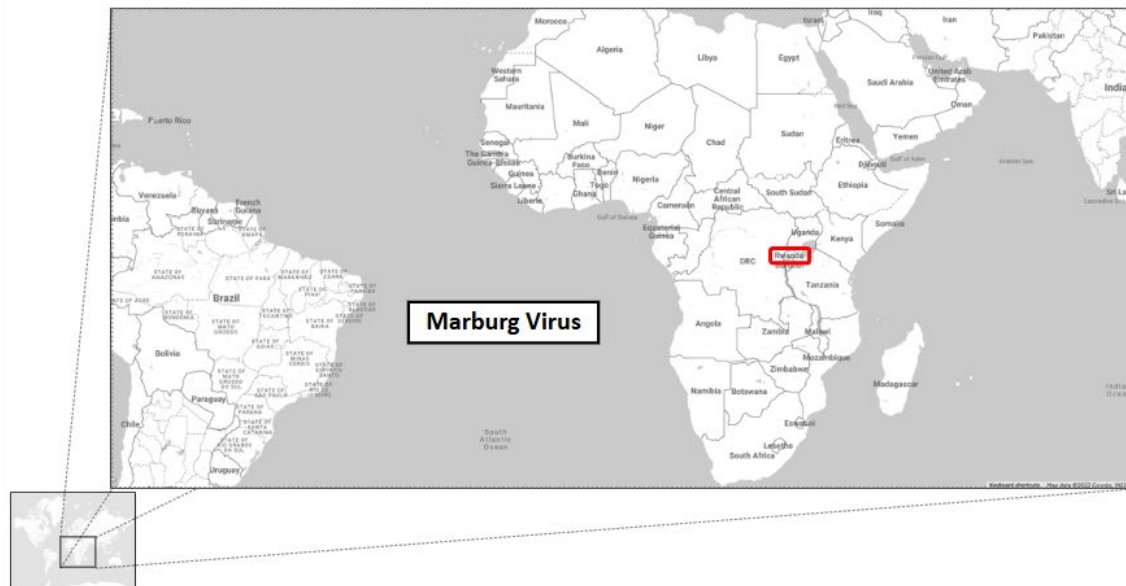
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Southern Regional Disaster Response System
HHS Region 4

Now to place this session in context, the Emory University Serious Communicable Diseases Program in conjunction with the SRDRS puts together situation reports on special pathogens of concern for our region, HHS Region 4. These SitReps are typically published on our website, social media channels, Emory Department of Medicine YouTube Channel and listservs. Here is the current HHS Region 4 special pathogens Sit rep.

Situation Report 19 December 2024



First, to Rwanda, where the latest Marburg Virus Outbreak was declared on September 27th. The the last patient was discharged from hospital on November 8th, starting a 42 day countdown until the outbreak may be declared over – the last day of which is this Saturday 21 Dec. Total confirmed infections stand at 66 with 15 fatalities, a case fatality rate of 23%, far lower than outbreaks of recent memory and largely a result of the swift and aggressive public health response. The Level 3 US travel notice was lowered on 27 Nov, and on 4 December the US department of Homeland Security and CDC ended the redirection of US bound air passengers from Rwanda to three US airports along with public health screening. Importantly, the majority of cases were among healthcare workers, highlighting the continued need for appropriate identification of potential cases.

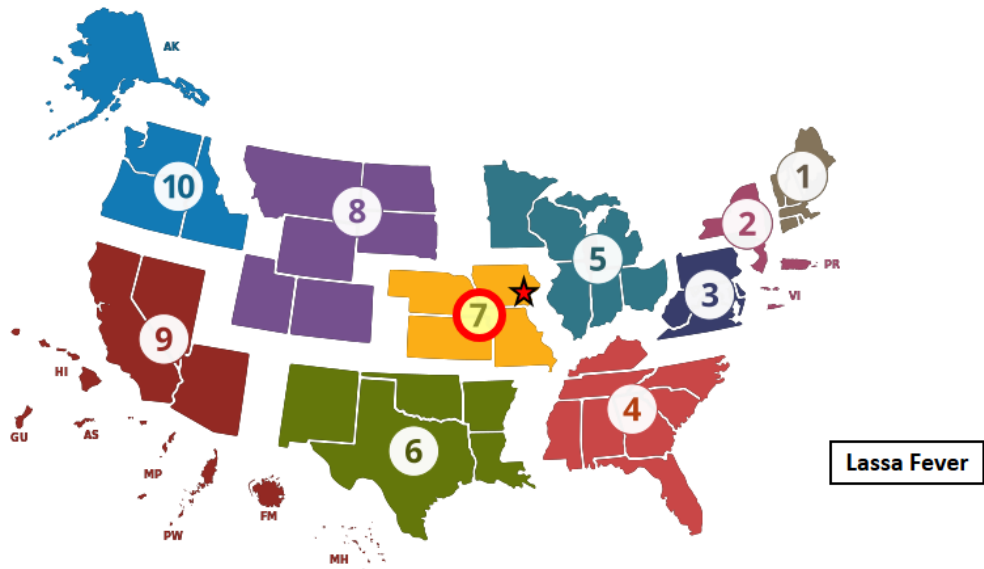
Situation Report 19 December 2024



Next, to Nigeria, where Lassa Fever Virus infections continue. In the most current report that detailed the outbreak through 1 Dec, there were 140 suspect, 26 confirmed, and 5 fatalities, a case fatality rate of 19.2%.

For the year, there have been 9335 suspect, 1115 confirmed, and 184 deaths, equating to a CFR of 16.5% - comparable to prior years. As central Nigeria is set to enter the dry season we do expect case counts to increase in the first quarter of the new year. Continued challenges include the late presentation of cases from poor awareness and health literacy, the high cost of treatment for the disease in Nigeria, and poor sanitary conditions in at-risk regions.

Situation Report 19 December 2024



And since the death of an Iowa resident on October 28th, there have been no secondary infections and evidence of additional transmission. While there were significant numbers of healthcare workers exposed, the majority of monitoring has ended. This was the 9th imported case of Lassa Fever in the US since 1969.

Situation Report 19 December 2024

Confirmed human case summary during the 2024 outbreak, by state and exposure source

Exposure Source					
State	Exposure Associated with Commercial Agriculture and Related Operations		Other Animal Exposure [†]	Exposure Source Unknown [†]	State Total
	Dairy Herds (Cattle)	Poultry Farms and Culling Operations			
California	33	0	0	1	34
Colorado	1	9	0	0	10
Louisiana	0	0	1	0	1
Michigan	2	0	0	0	2
Missouri	0	0	0	1	1
Oregon	0	1	0	0	1
Texas	1	0	0	0	1
Washington	0	11	0	0	11
Source Total	37	21	1	2	61

Lastly, new cases of H5N1 continue to be detected in the United States. On Friday the Louisiana Department of Health announced the state's first confirmed human H5N1 case in a person who was exposed to sick and dead birds and currently hospitalized – which the CDC confirmed on 18 Dec – the nation's first severe case. Importantly this is also the nation's first avian flu infection linked to exposure to backyard poultry – not the strain currently circulating in dairy cattle. This raised the nation's total this year to 61 in 8 states but does not increase the threat level or the observed risk for human-human transmission. Lastly, LabCorp announced this week that their H5 avian flu molecular test is now available for order, further bolstering diagnostic capacity. We continue to closely monitor case numbers and re-evaluate specific preparedness approaches. Healthcare workers in region 4 are advised to remain vigilant in identifying potential patients who may be at risk.



<https://scdu.emory.edu>

 @EmorySCDP



<https://www.youtube.com/@EmoryDOM>



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Finally, there have been no reports of suspected or confirmed patients with special pathogens of concern in region IV at this time. For more resources, visit us on the web at scdu.emory.edu

Update on H5N1 Bird Flu:

- US Case of H5N1 Bird Flu
 - <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/california-declares-emergency-after-severe-u-s-case-of-h5n1-bird-flu/>