

6 BEYOND OUR BORDERS

The 'Beyond our Borders' column focuses on selected and current international diseases that may affect South Africans travelling abroad. Numbers correspond to Figure 5 on page 9.

1. Diphtheria – Venezuela: (Bolivar) Resurgence

As of 14 October 2016, 13 cases of diphtheria were confirmed in the Bolivar state of Venezuela. To date, 22 children have died in Venezuela since the outbreak was identified. A vaccination campaign is ongoing.

2. Legionellosis – USA

As of 14 October 2016, a total of 23 cases of Legionnaires' disease in Minnesota, USA. The most recent illness onset date for known cases is 22 September 2016.

3. Anthrax- Zambia

On 6 October 2016, a total of 44 hippos was confirmed to be killed by anthrax in the Chama district of Zambia.

4. Polio—Nigeria

On 9 October 2016, an 8-year-old from the Sujawal district of Nigeria was confirmed to have poliomyelitis. There has been a total of four cases to date.

5. Influenza update – international

The WHO global seasonal influenza update on 4 September 2016 reported ongoing influenza circulation in southern hemisphere countries, with influenza activity in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere at inter-seasonal levels. For more detail refer to http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance/en/

6. Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever – Pakistan

As of 14 October 2016, 71 confirmed Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever patients were reported in Karachi (Pakistan), with nine fatalities.

7. Lassa fever - Nigeria

As of 14 October 2016, seven suspected cases of Lassa fever and three deaths (CFR, 42.86%) were reported in three Nigerian states. As of week 26 (ending 1 July 2016) 823 cases have been reported, of which 80 have been confirmed. There have been 96 reported deaths.

8. Cholera—Africa and Haiti

Following Hurricane Matthew, cases of cholera have been reported in Haiti, but exact numbers are still to be determined. Confirmed cholera outbreaks are ongoing in Nigeria (Lagos State, 155 suspected and 13 confirmed cases), and DR Congo (Maniema Province, 22 144 suspected cases, 669 deaths)

Source: Division of Public Health Surveillance and Response, NICD-NHLS



Figure 5.

Current outbreaks that may have implications for travellers. Number correspond to text above. The red dot is the approximate location of the outbreak or event.