

Lassa fever Situation Report

Epi Week 36: 31 August – 6 September 2020

Key Points

Table 1: Summary of current week (36), cumulative from Epi week 01–36, 2020 and comparison with previous year (2019)

Reporting Period	Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Probable cases	Deaths (Confirmed cases)	Case Fatality Ratio (CFR)	States and LGAs affected (Confirmed cases)
Current week (week 36)	46	4	0	0	0.0%	State(s): 3 LGA(s): 3
2020 Cumulative (week 1-36)	5647	1078	14	225	20.9%	State(s): 27 LGA(s): 129
2019 Cumulative (week 1-36)	3697	687	18	147	21.4%	State(s): 24 LGA(s): 83

Highlights

- In week 36, the number of new confirmed cases increased from 2 in week 35, 2020 to 4 cases. These were reported from 3 States (Edo, Ondo and Kogi) (Table 3).
- Cumulatively from week 1 to week 36, 2020, 225 deaths have been reported with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 20.9% which is lower than the CFR for the same period in 2019 (21.4%).
- In total for 2020, 27 States have recorded at least one confirmed case across 129 Local Government Areas (Figure 2 and 3).
- Of all confirmed cases, 74% are from Ondo (35%), Edo (32%) and Ebonyi (7%) States.
- The predominant age-group affected is 21-30 years (Range: <1 to 99 years, Median Age: 30 years). The male to female ratio for confirmed cases is 1:0.9 (Figure 4).
- The number of suspected cases has significantly increased compared to that reported for the same period in 2019.
- No new Healthcare worker was affected in the reporting week 36.
- Lassa fever outbreak emergency phase declared over on the 28th of April 2020 based on composite indicators national threshold.
- National Lassa fever multi-partner, multi-sectoral Technical Working Group (TWG) continues to coordinate the response activities at all levels.

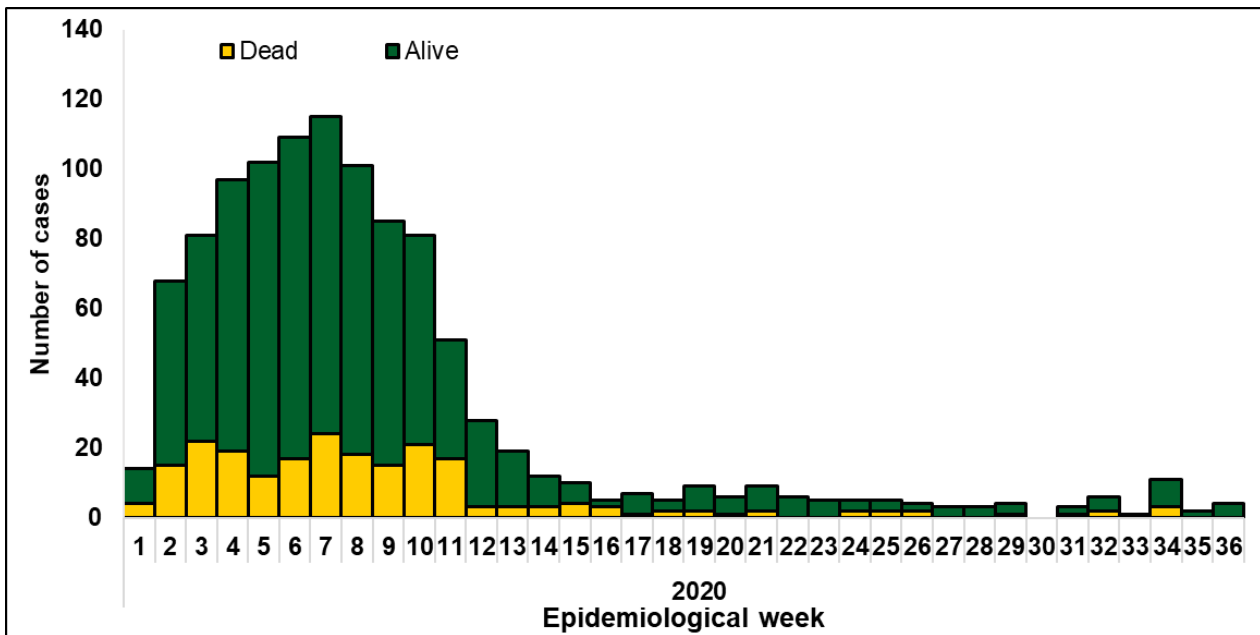


Figure 1. Epidemic curve of confirmed Lassa fever cases from epidemiological week 01 to 36, 2020

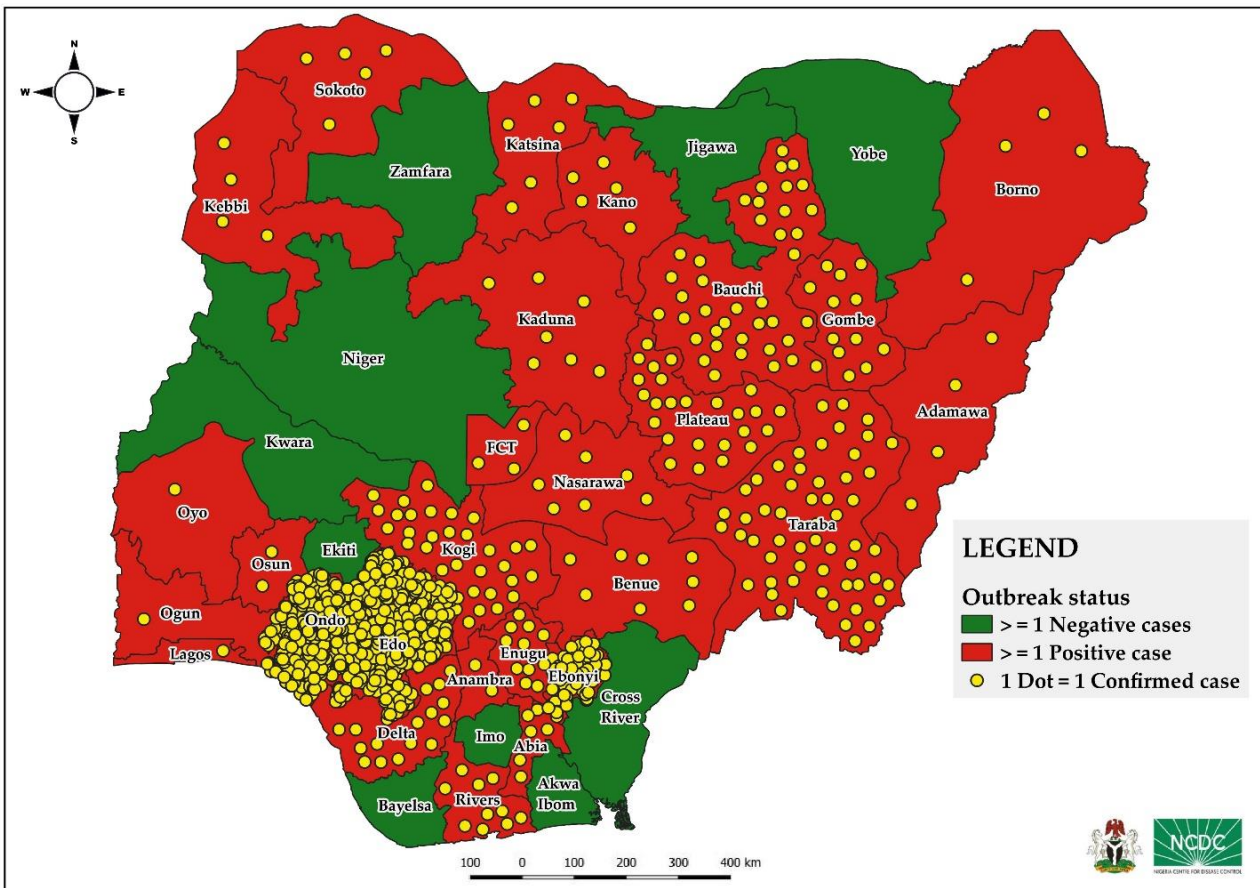


Figure 2. Confirmed Lassa fever cases by States in Nigeria, week 01- 36, 2020

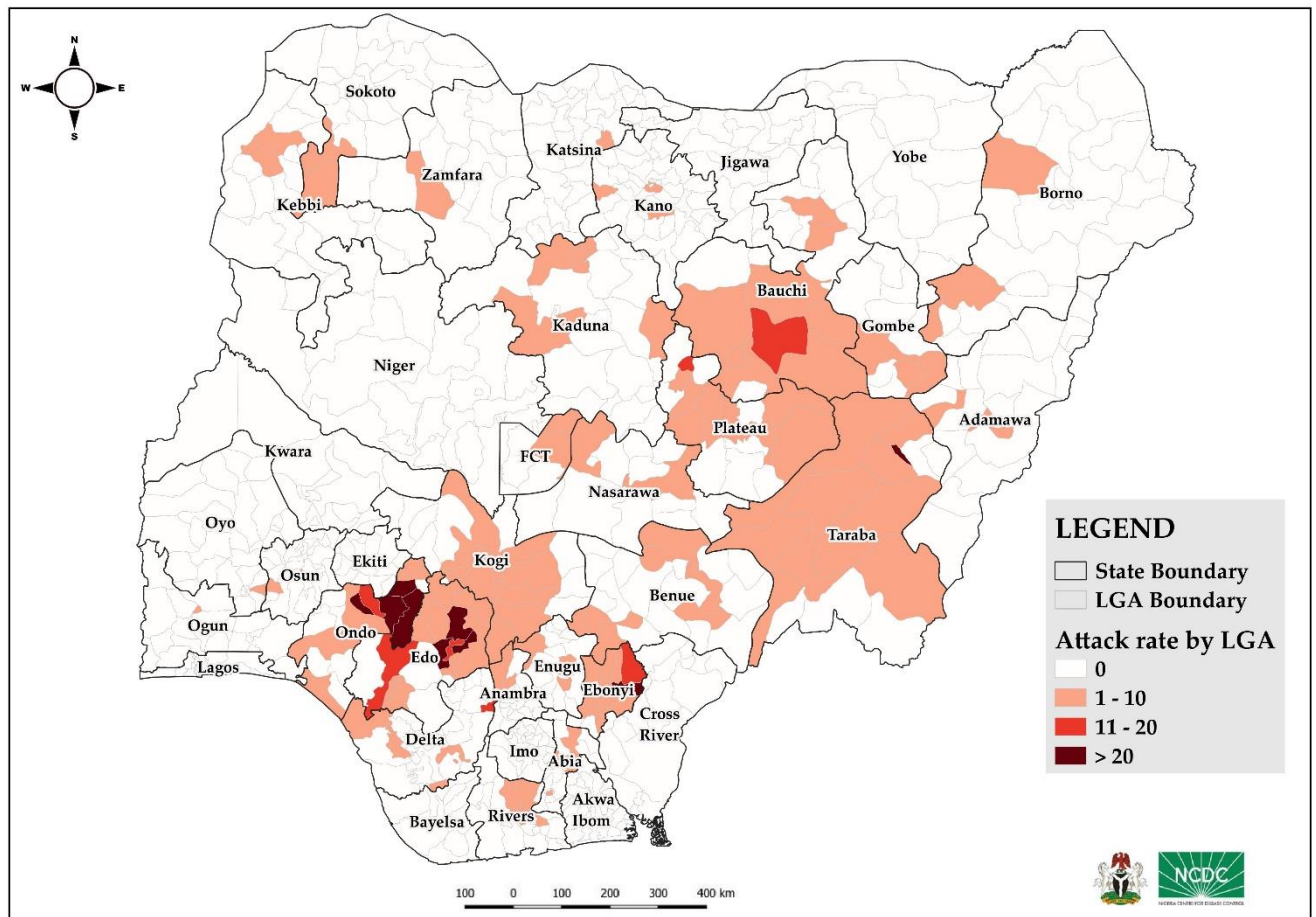


Figure 3. Confirmed Lassa fever rate per 100,000 population for LGAs in Nigeria, week 01- 36, 2020

Table 2: Key indicators for current week 2020 and trend compared to previous week, Nigeria

Indicator	Number for current week	Trend from previous week	Cumulative number for 2020
Probable cases	0	↔	14
Health Care Worker affected	0	↔	44
Cases undergoing treatment in Treatment centres	4	↑	1101
Contact tracing			
Cumulative contact listed	17	↑	10067
Contacts under follow up	20	↑	20
Contacts completed follow up	0	↓	9946
Symptomatic contacts	0	↔	172
Positive contacts	0	↔	57
Contacts lost to follow up	0	↔	44

Key

- ↑ Increase
- ↓ Decrease
- ↔ No difference

Table 3. Weekly and Cumulative number of suspected and confirmed cases for 2020

States	Current week: (Week 36)					Cumulative (Week 1 - 36)					
	Cases				Deaths (Confirmed Cases)	Cases				Deaths (Confirmed Cases)	
	Suspected	Confirmed	Trend	Probable HCW'		Suspected	Confirmed	Probable HCW'			
1 Abia						59	5			2	
2 Adamawa						18	4			1	
3 Akwa Ibom						12					
4 Anambra						32	2			1	
5 Bauchi						333	44	3	7	20	
6 Bayelsa						6					
7 Benue						47	9		1	4	
8 Borno						31	4		1	1	
9 Cross River						14					
10 Delta	1					135	16		3	3	
11 Ebonyi	4					324	76		1	22	
12 Edo	26	2	▲			2264	344	1	10	39	
13 Ekiti						14					
14 Enugu						69	10			2	
15 FCT						71	3			2	
16 Gombe						50	9	1	1	2	
17 Imo						20					
18 Jigawa						29			1		
19 Kaduna	1					129	7	2	1	5	
20 Kano						14	5	2	3	1	
21 Katsina						47	6	1	1	2	
22 Kebbi						31	4			2	
23 Kogi	1	1	▲			114	39	1		8	
24 Kwara						15					
25 Lagos						32	1				
26 Nasarawa						46	9			4	
27 Niger						10					
28 Ogun						36	1				
29 Ondo	10	1				1223	374	1	13	68	
30 Osun						32	2				
31 Oyo						13	1				
32 Plateau	3					163	32			8	
33 Rivers						21	9			3	
34 Sokoto						24	5			3	
35 Taraba						146	57	2	1	22	
36 Yobe						5					
37 Zamfara						18					
Total	46	4	▲	0	0	0	5647	1078	14	44	225

Key	
▼	Decrease
▲	Increase

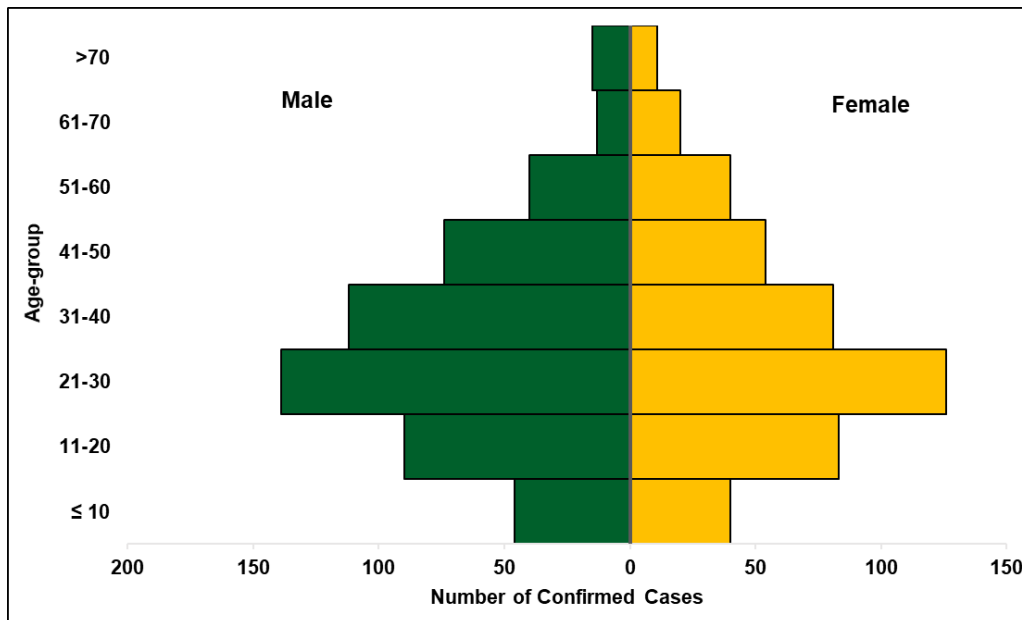


Figure 4. Age and sex pyramid showing number of confirmed Lassa fever cases for 2020

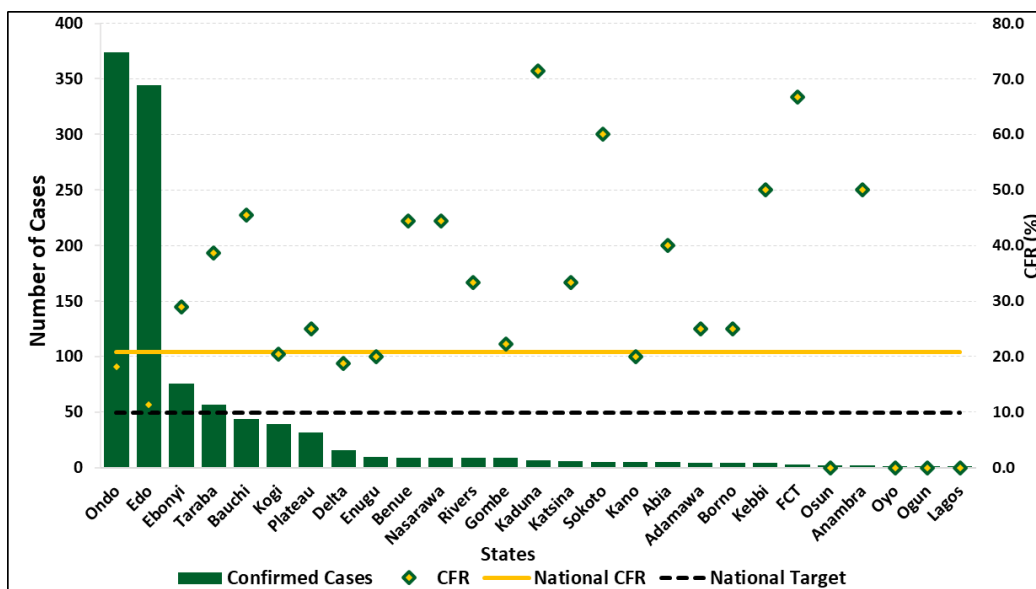


Figure 5: Number of confirmed cases with case fatality rate (CFR) by state, week 01- 36, 2020

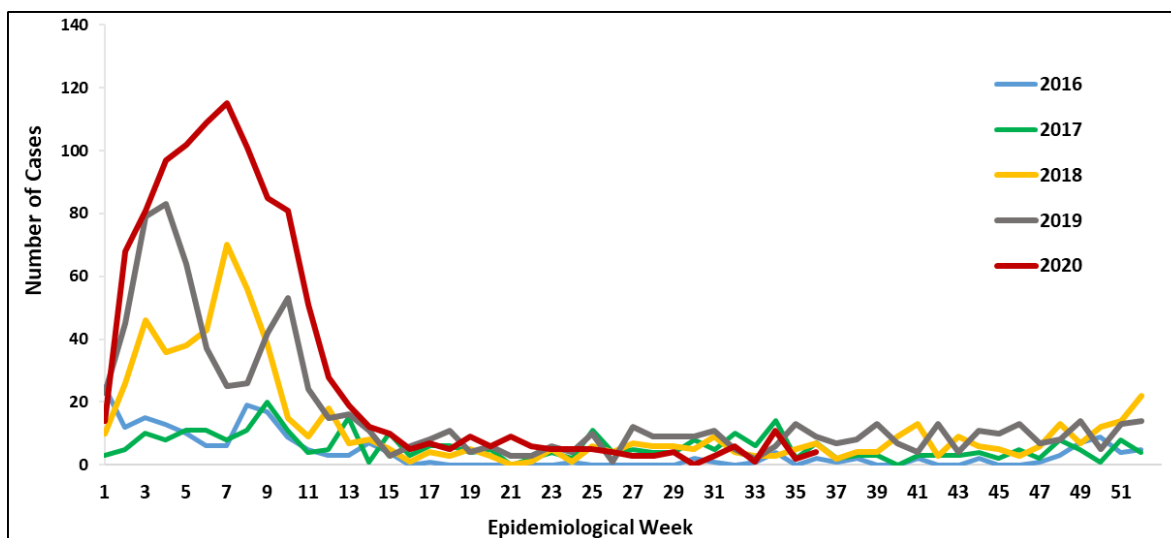


Figure 6: Trend of confirmed cases by epidemiological week, 2016 – 2020 (36), Nigeria

Table 5: Response activities

Pillar	Activities to date	Next steps
Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Emergency Operations Centre was activated on 24th January, 2020 for effective multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary coordination of Lassa fever response Incident Action Plan developed NCDC National Rapid Response Team(RRT) deployed to Ondo, Ebonyi, Enugu, Katsina, Taraba, Delta, Edo, Kano, Borno and Bauchi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource mobilisation Finalisation of the Lassa fever five-year Strategic plan
Case management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed cases are treated at identified treatment centres across the states Dissemination of reviewed case management and safe burial practices guidelines Surge capacity deployed to ISTH and FMC Owo Training on Lassa fever IPC and case management for Enugu, Delta, Abia and Anambra 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot indigent patient treatment scheme through the basic healthcare provision funds Mortality review of Lassa fever deaths In-depth investigation of healthcare worker infections
Infection Prevention and Control and Safe burial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dissemination of reviewed IPC guideline Dissemination of health facility IPC advisory Dissemination of Lassa fever Healthcare worker advisories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IPC training for Healthcare workers
Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnosis of all samples in the five Lassa fever testing laboratories across the country Establishment of Lassa fever testing Laboratory in FMC Owo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harmonisation of laboratory and surveillance data ongoing
Logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response commodities -PPEs, Ribavirin (injection and tablets), beds, tents, body-bags, thermometers, hypochlorite hand sanitizers, IEC materials, guidelines and SOPs distributed to states and treatment centres 	
Research Pillar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lassa fever proposal development workshop for national level staff 	
Risk communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of targeted risk communication activities in most affected States Dissemination of media content including press releases, tweets, public advisories etc. Lassa fever awareness and prevention campaign in FCT, Edo and Ondo supported by Hypo 	
Surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update of VHF Case Investigation Form (CIF) database Enhanced surveillance (contact tracing and active case finding) in affected states Cross border collaboration with Benin Republic on newly reported Lassa fever cases 	
State Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-sectoral Public Health Emergency Operation Centres (PHEOC)activated in affected States High level advocacy visit by the Honourable Minister of Health and DG NCDC to Kano State Ondo State Governor provided two new Hilux vehicle for surveillance activities and 20 beds for treatment centre Edo State Governor inaugurated Lassa fever Task force to tackle Lassa fever in Edo state, provided PPE to ISTH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support states to develop and implement Lassa fever response sustainability plan Operationalisation of LGA Sanitation desks by Environmental health officers in all states
Federal Ministry of Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of Lassa fever Environmental response campaign in high burden states 	Implementation of regular sanitation exercise in all States

Challenges

- Sustainability of Lassa fever outbreak response by States
- Poor environmental sanitation conditions observed in high burden communities
- Poor risk communication activities at the State level leading to late presentation of cases
- Poor IPC institutionalisation at State level and treatment centres

Notes on this report

Data Source

Information for this disease was case based data retrieved from the National Lassa fever Emergency Operations Centre.

Case definitions

- **Suspected case:** any individual presenting with one or more of the following: malaise, fever, headache, sore throat, cough, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, myalgia, chest pain, hearing loss and either a. History of contact with excreta or urine of rodents b. History of contact with a probable or confirmed Lassa fever case within a period of 21 days of onset of symptoms OR Any person with inexplicable bleeding/hemorrhagia.
- **Confirmed case:** any suspected case with laboratory confirmation (positive IgM antibody, PCR or virus isolation)
- **Probable case:** any suspected case (see definition above) who died or absconded without collection of specimen for laboratory testing
- **Contact:** Anyone who has been exposed to an infected person, or to an infected person's secretions, excretions, or tissues within three weeks of last contact with a confirmed or probable case of Lassa fever

Calculations

- Case Fatality Rate (CFR) for this disease is reported for confirmed cases only

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