



Lassa Fever Situation Report

Epi Week 12: 17th – 23rd March 2025

Key Points

Table 1: Summary of the current week (12), cumulative Epi week 12, 2025 and comparison with the previous year (2024)

Reporting Period	Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Probable cases	Deaths (Confirmed cases)	Case Fatality Ratio (CFR)	States and LGAs affected (Confirmed cases)
Current week (week 12)	262	41	1	6	14.6%	State(s):9 LGA(s): 21
2025 Cumulative (week 12)	3465	645	7	119	18.4%	State(s):18 LGA(s): 91
2024 Cumulative (week 12)	5029	791	17	149	18.8%	State(s):27 LGA(s): 125

Highlights

- In week 12, the number of new confirmed cases increased from 40 in epi week 11, of 2025 to 41. These were reported in Bauchi, Taraba, Ondo, Benue, Edo, Plateau, Gombe, Borno, and Ogun States (Table 3)
- Cumulatively in week 12, 2025, 119 deaths have been reported with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 18.4% which is lower than the CFR for the same period in 2024 (18.8%)
- In total for 2025, 18 States have recorded at least one confirmed case across 91 Local Government Areas (Figures 2 and 3)
- Seventy (70%) of all confirmed Lassa fever cases were reported from these three states (Ondo, Bauchi and Edo) while 29% were reported from 15 states with confirmed Lassa fever cases. Of the 70% confirmed cases, Ondo reported 29%, Bauchi 25%, and Edo 16%
- The predominant age group affected is 21-30 years (Range: 1 to 94 years, Median Age: 30 years). The male-to-female ratio for confirmed cases is 1:0.8 (Figure 4)
- The number of suspected cases decreased compared to that reported for the same period in 2024.
- One new healthcare worker was affected in the reporting week 12.
- National Lassa fever multi-partner, multi-sectoral Incident Management System (IMS) activated to coordinate the response activities at all levels.

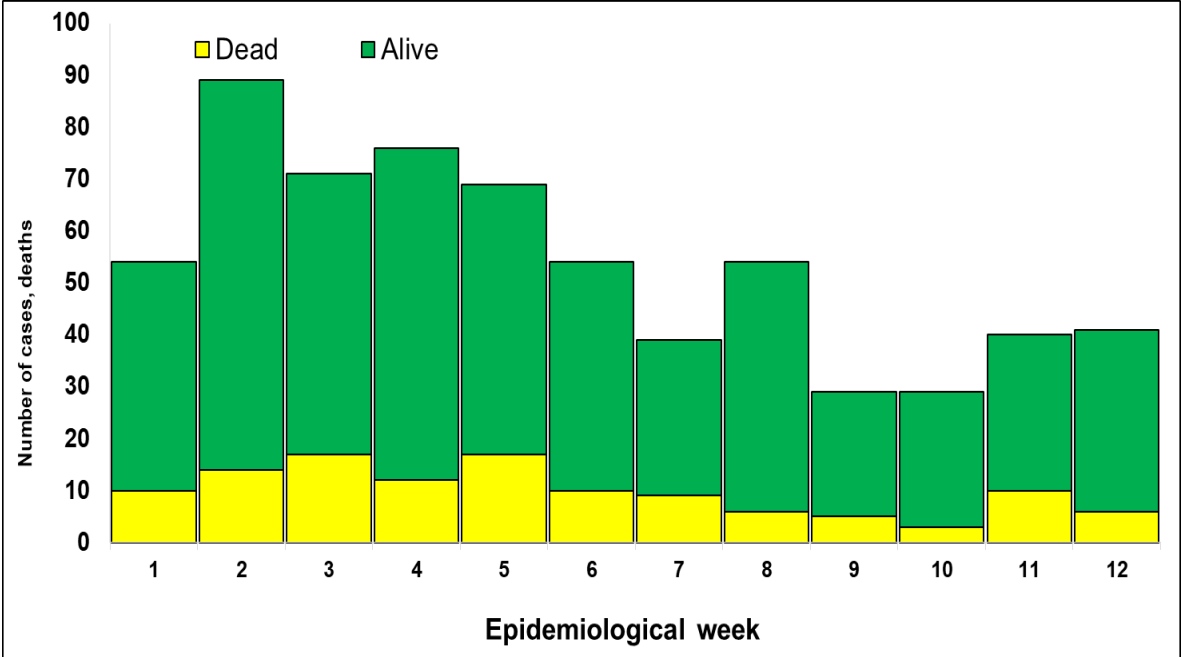


Figure 1. Confirmed Lassa Fever Cases in Nigeria Epidemiological Week 12, 2025

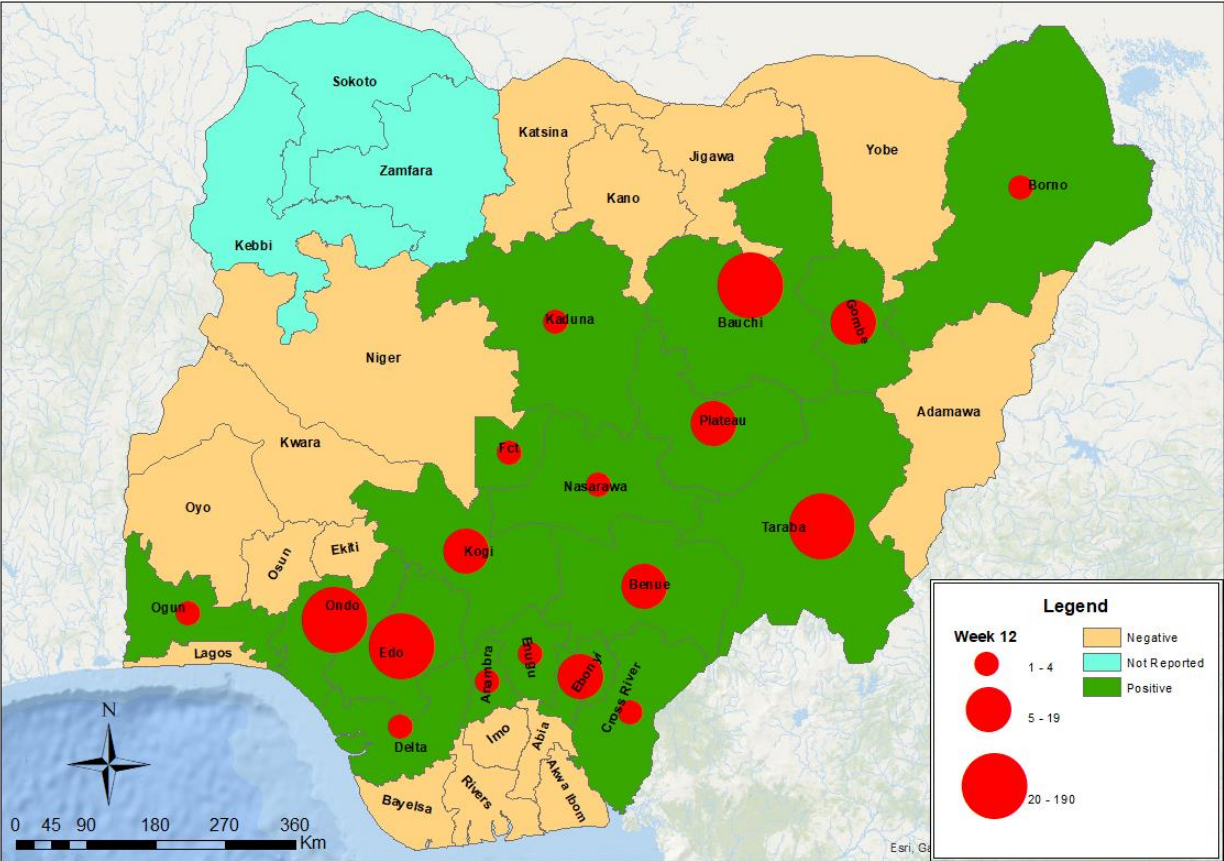


Figure 2. Confirmed Lassa fever cases by States in Nigeria, week 12, 2025

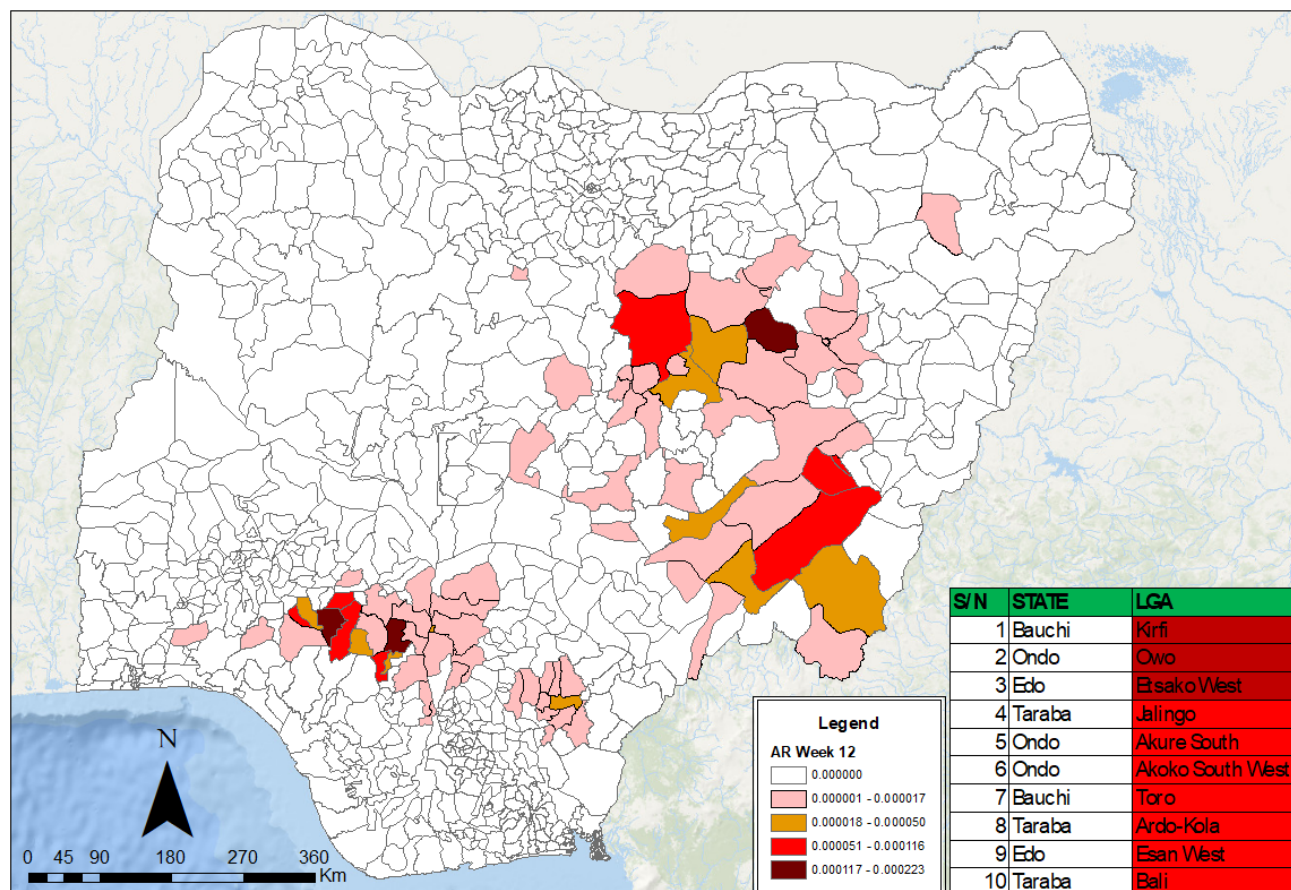


Figure 3. Confirmed Lassa fever attack rate per 100,000 population for LGAs in Nigeria, week 12, 2025

Table 2: Key indicators for the current week in 2025 and trend compared to the previous week, Nigeria

Symptomatic contacts	Number for current week	Trend from previous week	Cumulative number for 2025
Probable cases	1	↑	7
Health Care Worker affected	1	↓	20
Cases managed at the treatment centres	35	↑	525
Contact tracing			
Cumulative contact listed	300	↑	1573
Contacts under follow up	403	↑	403
Contacts completed follow up	15	↓	901
Symptomatic contacts	0	↔	14
Positive contacts	0	↔	12
Contacts lost to follow up	0	↔	0

Key

↑ Increase
 ↓ Decrease
 ↔ No difference

Epi Week: 12 2025

		Current week: (Week 12)						Cumulative (Week 1 - 12)					
	States	Cases				Deaths		Cases				Deaths	
		Suspected	Confirmed	Trend	Probable HCW*	(Confirmed Cases)	Suspected	Confirmed	Probable HCW*	(Confirmed Cases)			
1	Ondo	52	7				1	923	190		8	23	
2	Bauchi	41	14	▲				658	161	1	4	12	
3	Edo	72	3	▼			1	1080	105		1	16	
4	Taraba	19	7	▼			1	248	103		2	31	
5	Ebonyi	7		▼				100	19		1	9	
6	Kogi							63	15			4	
7	Plateau	11	3	▲	1		1	43	13	1		5	
8	Gombe	5	1	▲				55	12	1	2	6	
9	Benue	13	4	▲		1	1	40	9	4	1	4	
10	Nasarawa	5		▼				59	4			3	
11	Kaduna	1		▼				19	3			2	
12	Enugu	1		▼				16	3			1	
13	Delta							15	2			1	
14	Cross River							29	2			1	
15	Borno	1	1	▲				5	1				
16	Ogun	2	1	▲			1	7	1			1	
17	Fct	2		▼				9	1		1		
18	Anambra	1						9	1				
19	Katsina							1					
20	Kwara	2						3					
21	Jigawa							1					
22	Yobe							3					
23	Akwa-Ibom							1					
24	Niger	1						2					
25	Ekiti	4						12					
26	Rivers							4					
27	Adamawa							7					
28	Abia							6					
29	Imo							4					
30	Bayelsa							2					
31	Oyo	1						24					
32	Lagos	1						10					
33	Kano							7					
	Total	242	41	▲	1	1	6	3465	645	7	20	119	

4 | Page

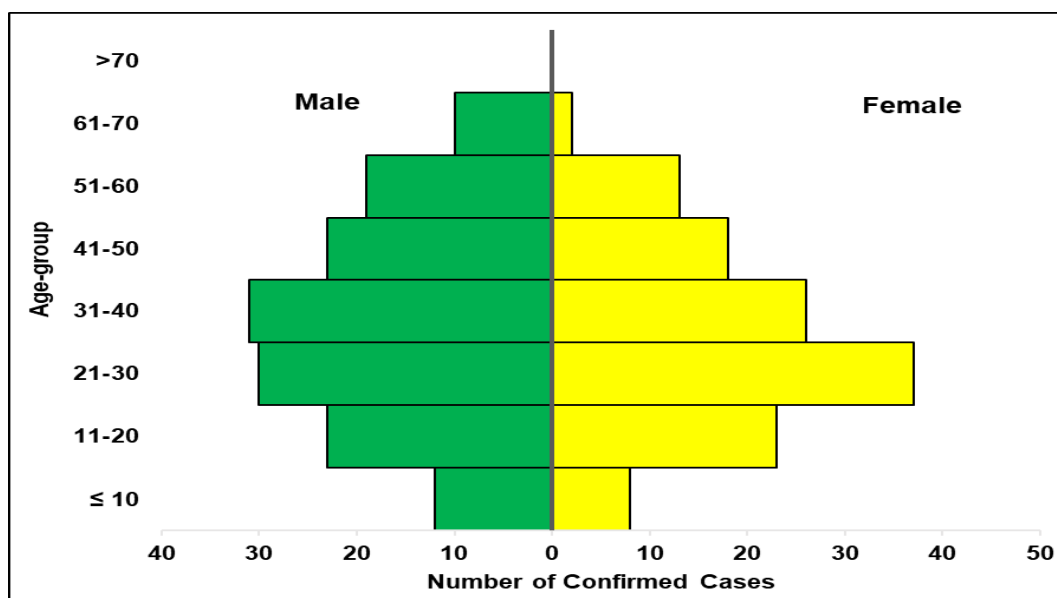


Figure 4. Age and sex pyramid showing the number of confirmed Lassa fever cases for 2025

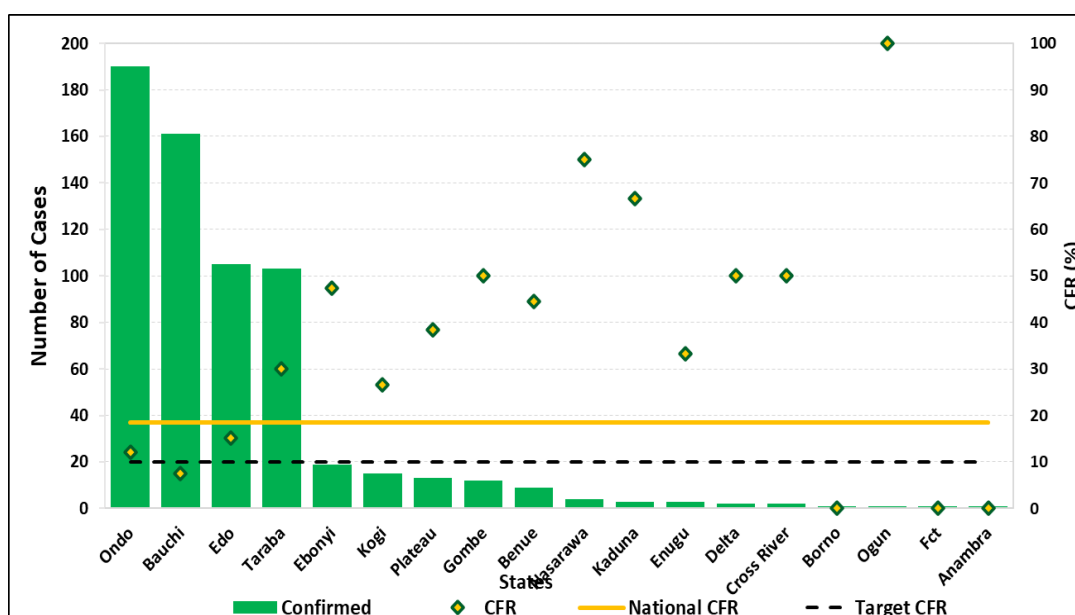


Figure 5: Number of confirmed cases with case fatality rate (CFR) by state week 12, 2025

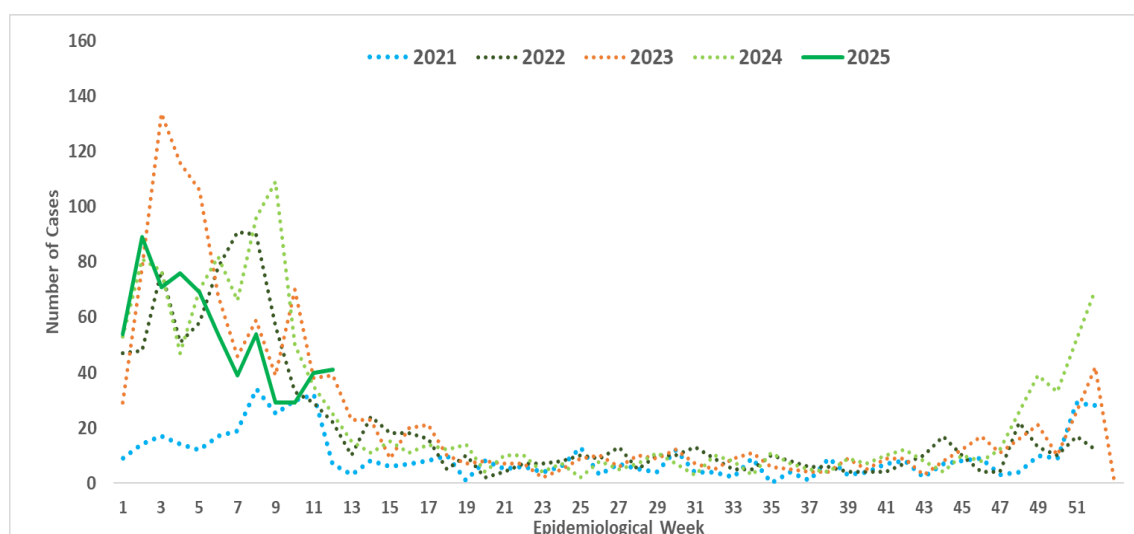


Figure 6: Trend of confirmed cases by epidemiological week, 2021– 2025, Nigeria

- Shared findings on the ongoing LF Case Management need assessment across the designated Treatment Centres
- Held the weekly National risk communication stakeholders meeting
- Held bilateral meeting with WHO HQ on areas of mutual collaboration
- Held a pre-deployment briefing for members of NRRT
- Deployed the 2nd Batch of NRRT to three states (Gombe, Nasarawa and Benue)
- Participated in the official handing over of laboratory equipment by IHVN to the Ondo State Public Health laboratory
- Held bilateral discussions with MSF Geneva on mutual areas of collaboration for Lassa fever
- Identified areas of mutual collaboration with the Nigeria Health Watch
- Conducted LF CM need assessment across the designated Treatment Centers
- Held the final and 7th Lassa Fever webinar in the readiness series for the 2024/2025 outbreak season
- Case management pillar with support from Georgetown Global Health Nigeria (GGHN) facilitated the 7th LF webinar
- Commenced the first round of 3-monthly participants follow-up and blood sampling exercise at FMC Owo and ISTH Edo states sites
- Conducted the baseline audiometry assessment at FMCO and ISTH sites
- Deployed National Rapid Response Teams to support onsite control and management efforts using a One Health approach
- Collaborated with the HEPR department to hold a briefing for teams to guide logistics, reporting channels and conduct of teams in line with stipulated guidelines
- Ongoing need assessment across the designated LF TCs
- Planning meeting for a Monthly Webinar Series on Lassa fever Case Mgt (Initiated by Georgetown University & its local affiliate, GGHN)
- Orientation on the use of the Lassa fever Advocacy toolkit for preparedness and response supported by BA-N
- Plan to hold the 6th Lassa Fever webinar series in collaboration with the FMENv and partners
- HCWs trained on case mgt in Bauchi, Ebonyi & Benue states
- Planning meeting for training of HCWs on case mgt in Plateau & Taraba state scheduled
- Activation of the Lassa Fever Incident Management System coordinated at the National Public Health Emergency Operation Centre
- Reviewed the Lassa Fever Advocacy toolkit with support from BA-N
- Held the 5th Webinar in the series in collaboration with the Laboratory pillar
- Conducted the Lassa fever risk assessment in preparation for the 2025 outbreak season
- Daily reviews of updates from SITAware/PHI meetings
- Continued provision of offsite support to all States sending daily and weekly situation reports
- Confirmed cases are treated at identified treatment centres across the states
- Dissemination of reviewed case management and safe burial practices guidelines
- IPC Guideline development workshop conducted in Bauchi State supported by WB through CoPREP
- Diagnosis of all samples in the Eight Lassa fever testing laboratories across the country
- External Quality Assurance (EQA) panel preparation for all testing laboratories ongoing
- Optimization of UBTH Benin and FMC Makurdi
- Participated in the 5th webinar series focused on Laboratory Preparedness for Lassa fever Outbreaks
- Distribution of response commodities -PPEs, Ribavirin (injection and tablets) body-bags, thermometers, hypochloride hand sanitizers, and IEC materials distributed to states and treatment centres
- Development of distribution plan and the prepositioning of Lassa Fever Commodities
- Implementation of Nigeria Lassa fever epidemiological Study supported by CEPI
- Shared updates on the 'enable LF program-1.5' with funding from CEPI
- Shared report on Enable 1.5 Project Achievements
- Dissemination of media content including press releases, tweets, public advisories etc
- Sensitization of healthcare workers and other community structures across hotspot LGAs
- Collaborated with BA-N to review and validate the Lassa Fever advocacy toolkit
- Conducted a community survey in 3 States- Bauchi, Ebonyi, and Edo
- Developed a targeted communication strategy based on the data from the community survey conducted in 3 states
- Update of VHF Case Investigation Form (CIF) database
- Enhanced surveillance (contact tracing and active case finding) in affected states.

- Monitoring of outbreak emergency composite indicators to guide action
- Conducted the LF webinar series focused on Surveillance
- Intensive response activities through a one-health approach in affected LGAs
- Activation of state burial team in Ogun State
- Developed and disseminated SMS on LF with the support of Breakthrough Action Nigeria (BA-N) in Benue State

Challenges

- Late presentation of cases leading to an increase in CFR
- Poor health-seeking behaviour due to the high cost of treatment and clinical management of Lassa fever
- Poor environmental sanitation conditions observed in high-burden communities
- Poor awareness observed in high-burden communities

Notes on this report

Data Source

Information for this disease was case-based data retrieved from the National Lassa Fever Technical Working Group.

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/haemorrhage.
- **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.

VIRAL HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

For social mobilization https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/83_1517222929.pdf

For LGA Rapid Response Team https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/82_1517222811.pdf

Healthcare worker laboratory https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/81_1517222763.pdf

For healthcare workers https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/80_1517222586.pdf

For community informants https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/79_1517222512.pdf

NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR LASSA FEVER CASE MANAGEMENT

https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/protocols/92_1547068532.pdf

VIRAL HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER AND RESPONSE PLAN

https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/protocols/24_1502192155.pdf

NATIONAL GUIDELINE FOR INFECTION, PREVENTION AND CONTROL FOR VIRAL HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER INFORMATION RESOURCE

https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/protocols/341_1707300274.pdf

Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention: www.ncdc.gov.ng

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