



Division of the National Health Laboratory Service

Foodborne Disease Outbreak And Agricultural and stock remedy poisoning notifications

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NOTIFIABLE MEDICAL CONDITIONS (NMC) CASE DEFINITIONS FLIPCHART

JUNE 2024, category 1: Immediate reporting telephonically followed by written or electronic notification within 24hrs of diagnosing a case

Why is surveillance necessary?	Who must notify and when?	Suspected case definition	Confirmed case definition
Early identification of foodborne illness outbreaks will allow authorities to investigate the outbreak timeously, collect appropriate specimens, dentify the outbreak source/s and implement nterventions toprevent additional cases.	The healthcare worker who makes the diagnosis should notify the outbreak by completing a NMC notification form for the index case only submit a complete linelist of affected persons to the responsible communicable disease control coordinator AND to the responsible environmental health practitioner AND to the	An incident in which two or more persons experience a similar illness (gastrointestinal) and are epidemiologically linked	⁴ None

Additional notes

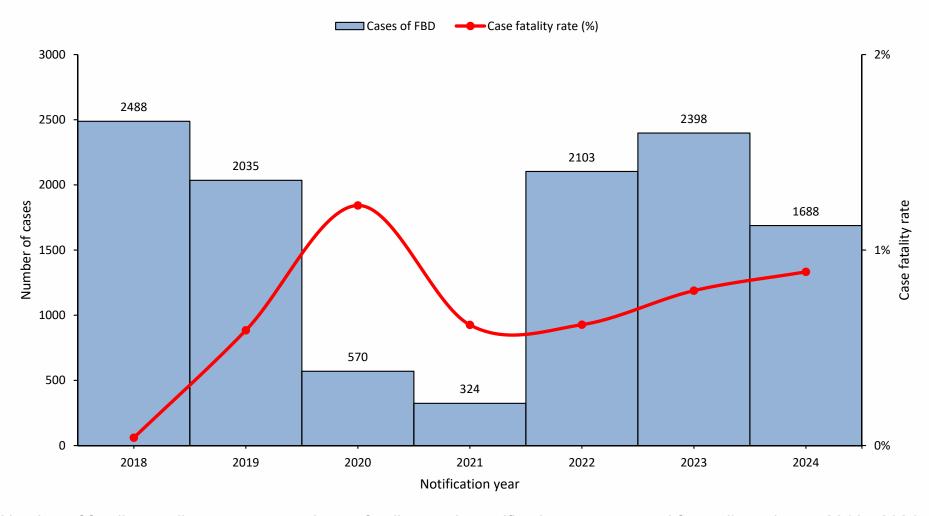
- It is not necessary to complete a NMC notification form for every single person affected by the foodborne illness outbreak. However, a line list (see resources below) should be submitted with names and demographic details of all affected persons.
- Stool and/or vomitus specimens, and food/environmental specimens should be submitted to NHLS public health laboratories. See contact details for these labs in resources below.
- A complete investigation of a foodborne illness outbreak requires additional data and results –including results of laboratory testing of clinical and food specimens, symptoms and
 clinical features of affected persons, the menu and list of foods offered at the implicated meal/s, complete food consumption history from affected AND non-affected persons, and
 investigation of foodhandlers. The Centre for Enteric Diseases at NICD provides assistance with outbreak investigations.

Additional resources

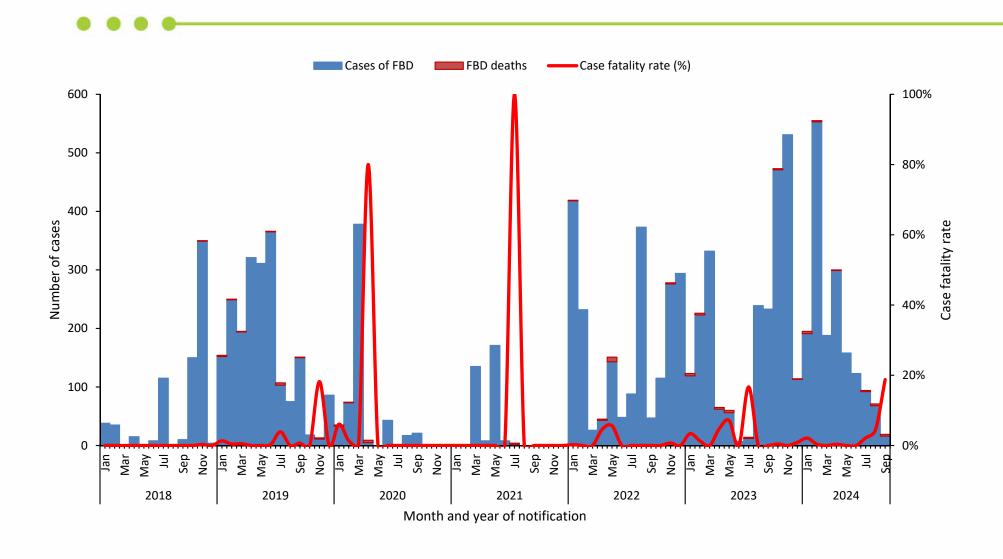
The NICD-NHLS quick reference guide for the investigation of food borne disease outbreaks (2012), line list (2012), case investigation form (CIF), and specimen submission forms for NHLS public health laboratories in Durban and Johannesburgare available at http://www.nicd.ac.za/diseases-a-z-index/foodborne-illness-and-gastroenteritis-outbreaks/

Number of foodborne disease outbreaks, cases, hospital admissions and deaths by notification year reported from all provinces, 2018 - 2024

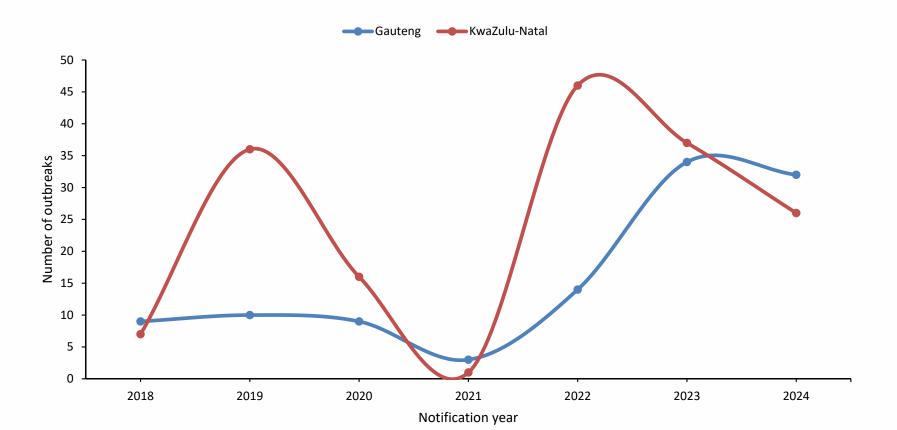
Notification year N	No. of Outbreaks	Cases of FBD	Admissions	Admission rate (%)	Deaths	Case fatality rate (%)
2018	24	2488	376	15	1	>0.001
2019	77	2035	227	11	12	0.6
2020	34	570	53	9	7	1.2
2021	7	324	23	7	2	0.6
2022	95	2103	127	6	13	0.6
2023	120	2398	305	13	19	0.8
2024	107	1688	149	9	15	0.9
Grand Total	474	12932	2252	17	69	>0.01



Number of foodborne disease cases and case fatality rate by notification year reported from all provinces, 2018 - 2024

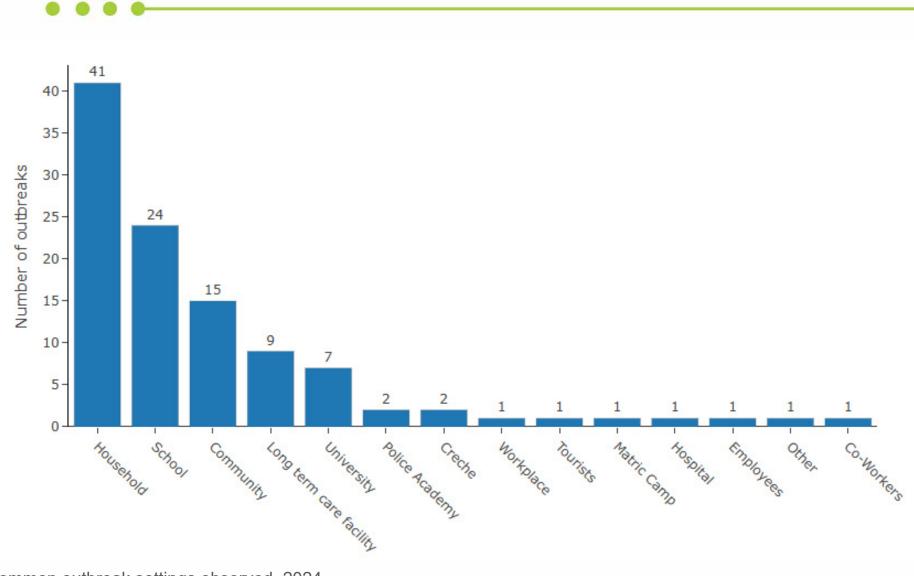






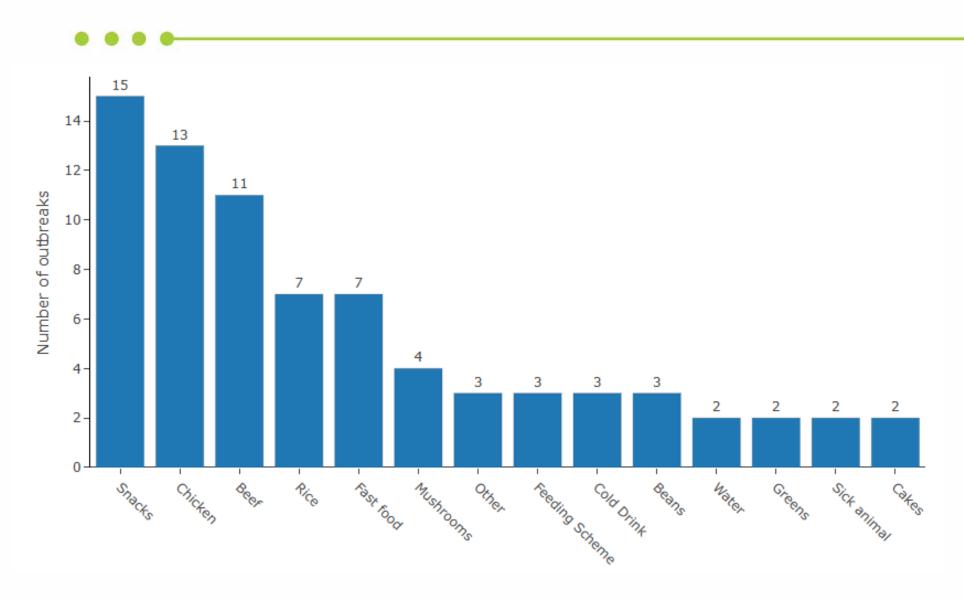
Number of foodborne disease outbreaks reported from Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal provinces, 2018 - 2024





Common outbreak settings observed, 2024





Common suspected food items reported, 2024

Clinical and food samples collection

- In any foodborne disease outbreak; the identification of the source of infection requires the isolation of the causative pathogen from both the suspected food item and the clinical specimens from the cases
- However; there are many factors that may contribute to the poor collection of both clinical and food samples during outbreak investigation.
 - Unavailability of the left over food items at the time of the investigation
 - Lack of food retention samples
 - Delayed reporting/notification of outbreaks to the relevant authorities
 - Unwillingness of cases to give a stool specimen
- Environmental health practitioners are encouraged to collect food samples in all foodborne disease outbreak, as this is crucial in identifying the source of the outbreak

NOTIFIABLE MEDICAL CONDITIONS (NMC) CASE DEFINITIONS FLIPCHART

Category 2: Written or electronic notification within 7days of diagnosing a case. The case must be notified following laboratory confirmation

AGRICULTURAL OR STOCK REMEDY POISONING

Disease epidemiology	Who must notify	Clinical case definition (Suspected case)	Probable case definition	Confirmed case definition
A pesticide (e.g. an agricultural or stock remedy) is any chemical substance, or mixture of substances, intended to kill, repel, or control forms of plant or animal life considered to be pests, or to regulate plant growth. Pesticides include herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, repellents. Pesticides are potentially toxic to humans and the environment, and can have both acute and chronic health effects, depending on the	The health care provider making the clinical diagnosis for a suspected, probable or confirmed case. Clinicians should not wait for laboratory confirmation	Must satisfy ONE criterion in EACH category listed below: 1. Pesticide exposure a. Report of acute pesticide exposure, from a patient or witness 2. Health effects a. Health care provider documenting ≥ 2	Must satisfy ONE criterion in EACH category listed below: 1. Pesticide exposure a. If criterion as for a Suspected case, must have Health effects criterion as for Confirmed case OR b. If criterion as for a Confirmed case, may have Health effects criterion as for Suspected	Must satisfy ONE criterion in EACH category listed below: 1. Pesticide exposure a. Observation of residue/odour by health care provider OR b. Clinical response to treatment or antidote (e.g. atropine) OR clinical description by a health care provider of ≥ 2 post-exposure health
quantity and ways in which a person is exposed. Some pesticides can remain in soil and water for years.	before notifying.	new post-exposure symptoms	case 2. Health effects	effects (at least 1 of which is a sign) characteristic for the pesticide OR c. Laboratory test demonstrating
The toxicity of a pesticide depends on its function, formulation and the route of exposure (i.e. ingestion, inhalation, or direct contact through the skin or eyes).		Cause-effect relationship The health effects must: a. not be associated with any other likely explanation AND AND	a. If criterion as for a Suspected case, must have Pesticide exposure criterion as for Confirmed case OR b. If criterion as for a	physiologic response to pesticide (e.g. prolonged clotting or pseudocholinesterase level below normal laboratory range) 2. Health effects
Pesticide poisoning can be classified as occupational, if exposure occurs while at work, or non-occupational, which includes exposure at home as well as		b. occur within a reasonable time period after exposure	Confirmed case, may have Pesticide exposure criterion as for Suspected case 3. Cause-effect relationship The health effects must:	a. Health care provider documenting ≥ 2 characteristic signs OR b. Health care provider documenting ≥ 3 new post-exposure characteristic symptoms

NMC case definitions flipchart final September 2021 Page 30



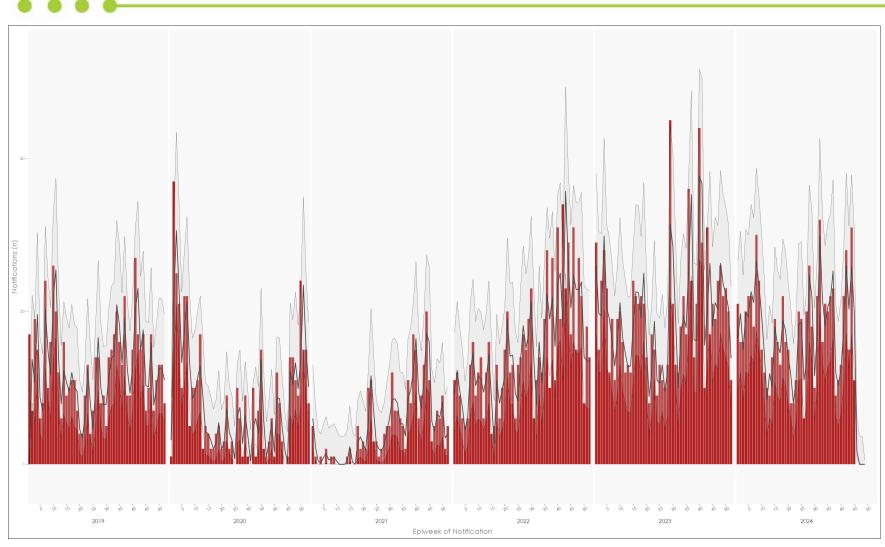
NOTIFIABLE MEDICAL CONDITIONS (NMC) CASE DEFINITIONS FLIPCHART

all cases involving suicide or self- harming behaviour.	a. be characteristic of the pesticide	OR
	AND b. occur within a reasonable time period after exposure	c. Autopsy evidence of pesticide poisoning 3. Cause-effect relationship The health effects must: a. be characteristic of the pesticide AND b. occur within a reasonable time period after exposure

Additional resources

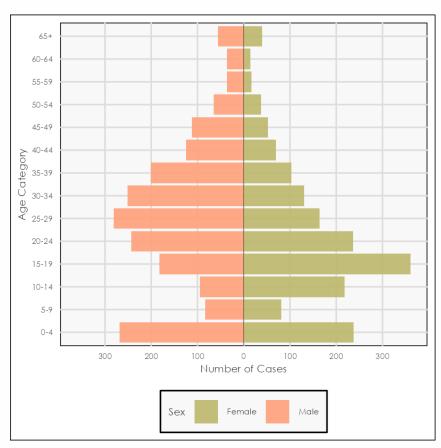
- Thundiyil, Josef G, Stober, Judy, Besbelli, Nida & Pronczuk, Jenny. (2008). Acute pesticide poisoning: a proposed classification tool. Bulletin of the World Health Organization, 86 (3), 205 209. World Health Organization. http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.08.041814
- https://ndc.services.cdc.gov/case-definitions/pesticide-related-illness-and-injury-acute-2010/

Agricultural and Stock Remedy Poisoning



Epicurve of Agricultural and Stock Remedy Poisoning in South Arica, 2019 - 2024





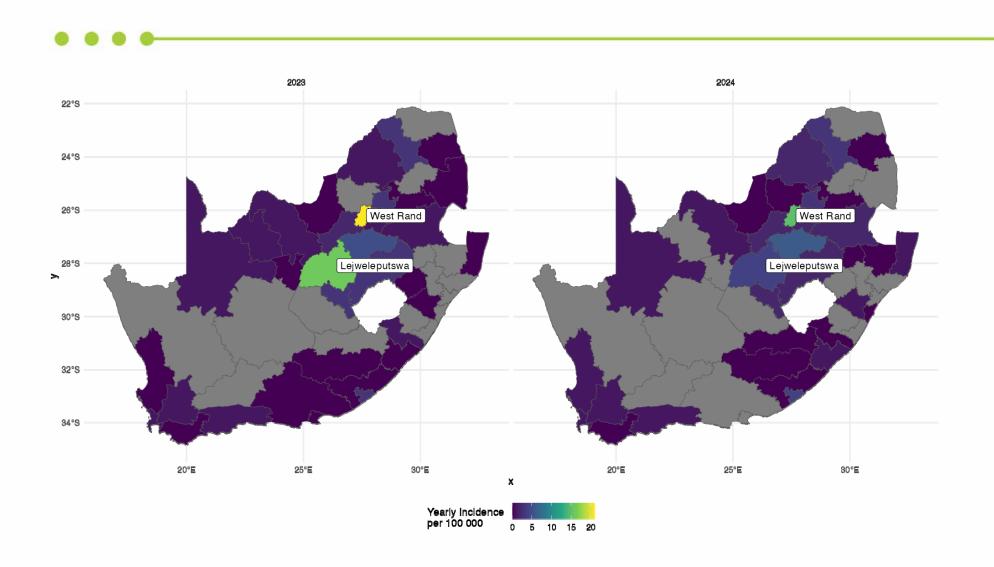
Age and Sex pyramid of Agricultural and Stock Remedy-
Poisoning notifications in South Arica, 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	$N = 640^{1}$	$N = 428^{1}$	$N = 256^{1}$	$N = 778^{1}$	$N = 1013^{1}$	$N = 792^{1}$
Province						
EC	74 (12%)	19 (4.4%)	5 (2.0%)	29 (3.7%)	41 (4.0%)	43 (5.4%)
FS	56 (8.8%)	49 (11%)	12 (4.7%)	103 (13%)	184 (18%)	93 (12%)
GP	362 (57%)	306 (71%)	185 (72%)	528 (68%)	622 (61%)	438 (55%)
KZN	7 (1.1%)	3 (0.7%)	1 (0.4%)	7 (0.9%)	9 (0.9%)	21 (2.7%)
LP	27 (4.2%)	15 (3.5%)	7 (2.7%)	16 (2.1%)	40 (3.9%)	55 (6.9%)
MP	18 (2.8%)	6 (1.4%)	2 (0.8%)	4 (0.5%)	21 (2.1%)	36 (4.5%)
NC	2 (0.3%)	3 (0.7%)	4 (1.6%)	10 (1.3%)	9 (0.9%)	2 (0.3%)
NW	48 (7.5%)	7 (1.6%)	16 (6.3%)	17 (2.2%)	24 (2.4%)	26 (3.3%)
WC	46 (7.2%)	20 (4.7%)	24 (9.4%)	64 (8.2%)	63 (6.2%)	78 (9.8%)
¹n (%)						

Agricultural and Stock Remedy Poisoning in notifications South Arica, 2019 - 2024

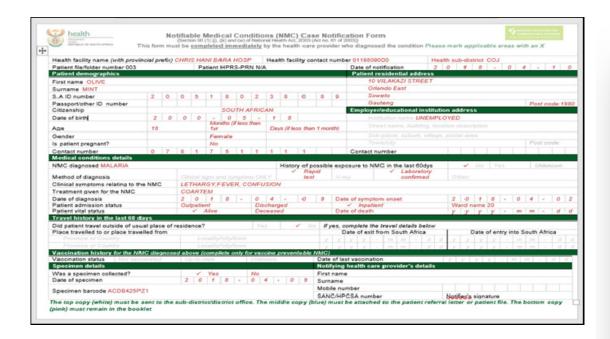
	Notifications	before 2024	Notifications in 2024		
	Confirmed * $N = 26^1$	Suspected N = 3 115 ¹	Confirmed * $N = 0^1$	Suspected N = 792 ¹	
Age					
Median (Q1, Q3)	23 (12, 35)	25 (14, 36)		19 (2, 33)	
Unknown	0	52	0	6	
Sex					
Female	9 (35%)	1 431 (46%)	0 (-%)	388 (49%)	
Male	17 (65%)	1 681 (54%)	0 (-%)	403 (51%)	
Self-Defined	0 (0%)	2 (<0.1%)	0 (-%)	1 (0.1%)	
Unknown	0 (0%)	1 (<0.1%)			
Province					
EC	2 (7.7%)	168 (5.4%)	0 (-%)	43 (5.4%)	
FS	2 (7.7%)	404 (13%)	0 (-%)	93 (12%)	
GP	18 (69%)	2 003 (64%)	0 (-%)	438 (55%)	
KZN	1 (3.8%)	27 (0.9%)	0 (-%)	21 (2.7%)	
LP	0 (0%)	105 (3.4%)	0 (-%)	55 (6.9%)	
MP	0 (0%)	51 (1.6%)	0 (-%)	36 (4.5%)	
NC	0 (0%)	28 (0.9%)	0 (-%)	2 (0.3%)	
NW	1 (3.8%)	112 (3.6%)	0 (-%)	26 (3.3%)	
WC	2 (7.7%)	217 (7.0%)	0 (-%)	78 (9.8%)	
Vital Status					
Alive	25 (96%)	2 815 (90%)	0 (-%)	715 (90%)	
Deceased	1 (3.8%)	259 (8.3%)	0 (-%)	70 (8.8%)	
Unknown	0 (0%)	41 (1.3%)	0 (-%)	7 (0.9%)	
¹n (%)					

Descriptive Statistics of Agricultural and Stock Remedy poisoning notifications, 2019 – 2024 * There is no centre at NICD with expertise to classify and validate poisoning cases.



Incidence of Agricultural and stock remedy poisoning notifications in South Africa, 2023 and 2024

Notification platforms



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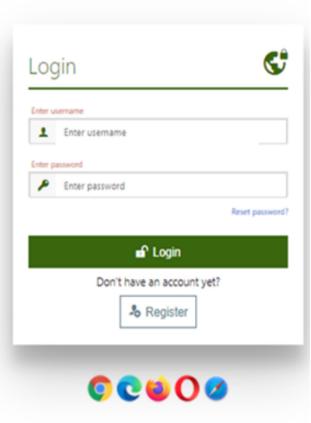








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Recommended browsers: Google Chrome v22.0 or higher, Microsoft Edge v9.0 or higher, Mozilla Firefox or higher, Opera v12.0 or higher and Apple Safari v5.0 or higher



Thank you