



# New and Old Culprits: new arena virus and cholera outbreaks

Lucille Blumberg  
National Institute for Communicable Diseases  
National Health Laboratory Services



## 15th November 2008

- NICD 24 hr 'hotline' receives call from MSF : outbreak of cholera at Beit Bridge.....
- 16 cases of acute watery diarrhoea reported in MSF clinic, Musina → National and Limpopo Dept of Health and WHO notified ..... laboratory confirmation of cholera



### .....Musina, Limpopo Province

### December 2008 .....Local cholera transmission in Limpopo .....

#### Cholera scare for SA rivers

Bacteria found in water

**NEWS**

With winter in its full swing, the possibility of cholera outbreaks in South Africa is a real concern, especially in the Limpopo province, where the disease has been reported in the past.

The Limpopo river basin, which flows through the Limpopo province, is a major source of water for the region. It is also being tested for cholera bacteria.

The Limpopo river basin is a major source of water for the region. It is also being tested for cholera bacteria.

### Outbreak response teams activated



### January 2009... sewerage spills into Mpumalanga rivers



'Kruger Park rivers positive for cholera included the Crocodile, Olifants, Shingwedzi and the Luvuvhu rivers. The park's vets and scientists confirmed that there was no risk to any animals, including marine life, since the cholera strain only affected humans'. Dr Mabunda says 'no risk to tourists'

03/02/2009 07:58 - SAPA



## Communicable Diseases Communiqué

Volume 8, No. 2

February 2009

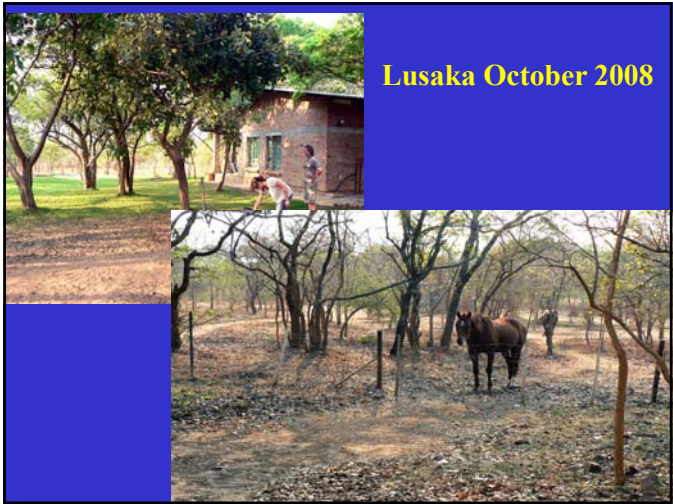
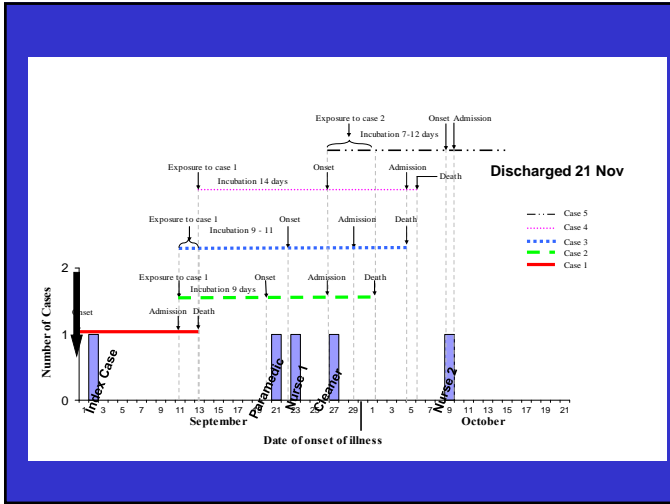


### Cholera outbreak

For the period 1 November 2008 to 19 February 2009, South Africa has reported 10 979 cases of cholera including 57 deaths (CFR = 0.52%). Of these, 964 cases (9%) have been laboratory-confirmed. Cases have been reported from all 9 provinces (Table) with the majority occurring in Limpopo (42%, 4586/10979) and Mpumalanga (56%, 6101/10979) provinces.

districts via local transmission. The large outbreak in Mpumalanga Province was confirmed in Ehlanzeni district in the second week of January 2009 following the investigation of a cluster of deaths in adults due to severe dehydration and an increase in cases of diarrhoea reported at health care facilities. The number of new cases is now declining in both of the above-mentioned provinces





Lusaka October 2008

Low platelets  
Deranged liver function tests

**VIRAL HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER SYNDROME ??????**

**Plus .....MONITORING OF CONTACTS**



'New Arenavirus'

Proposed new name: **LUJO**

- LUSAKA –JOHANNESBURG



