



## THE SOURCE OF THE DISEASE

Certain types of rats can spread the Lassa fever virus.

The infection does not make them sick but **can make humans seriously ill.**



## UNDERSTAND THE RISKS

Humans can be infected by:

- **Touching:**
  - **contaminated household items;**
- **Touching** or **eating:**
  - **raw** or **undercooked** meat of **infected rats;**
  - **food contaminated** by the **urine** or **excrement** of **infected rats;**
- **Handling** or **playing with:**
  - **rats.**



*The virus can also be transmitted between people through contact with the blood, urine, excrement or other organic secretions of an infected person.*



## ENSURING GOOD HYGIENE



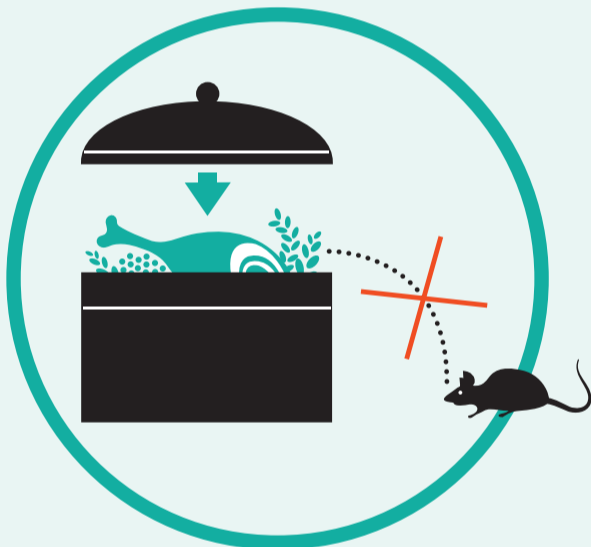
**DO NOT TOUCH  
OR PLAY**  
with rats



**AVOID ALL FOOD  
CONTAMINATED**  
by the urine  
or excrement of rats



**AVOID RAT BITES  
AND SCRATCHES AS WELL  
AS CONTACT**  
with their urine or excrement



**PROTECT LEFTOVER FOOD**  
Use rat-resistant containers



**WASH YOUR HANDS**  
frequently



**ALL ANIMAL PRODUCTS**  
should be well-cooked



**KEEP** your home  
and its surroundings **CLEAN**



**CUT PLANTS**  
near homes



**FILL ALL HOLES**  
in the house  
to prevent rats  
from entering



**PICK UP GARBAGE**  
and throw it in a garbage pit  
far from homes

# TAKE ACTION TODAY to minimise risks



## GOOD PRACTICES

- 1 • **DO NOT TOUCH OR PLAY** with rats.
- 2 • **DO NOT EAT:**
  - food contaminated by rat urine or excrement;
  - raw or poorly cooked meat.
- 3 • **TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT** rat bites and scratches, as well as contact with their urine or excrement.



- 1 • **WASH your hands** frequently.
- 2 • **PROTECT leftover food** in rat-resistant containers (containers with lids).
- 3 • **ALL MEAT CONSUMED** should be well-cooked.
- 4 • **KEEP YOUR HOME** and its surroundings clean:
  - cut plants near homes;
  - fill all holes in the house to prevent rats from entering;
  - pick up garbage and throw it in a garbage pit far from homes.

**Go to the nearest health clinic** as soon as possible if you are scratched or bitten