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.

How to protect yourself from LASSA FEVER?

This project is financed by the European Union
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

- **FILL ALL HOLES**
  - In the house to prevent rats from entering

- **CUT PLANTS**
  - Near homes

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

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

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World Organisation for Animal Health

INSTITUT PASTEUR

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LASSA Fever

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.