



INFORME RESUMEN DE AMENAZAS A LA SALUD PÚBLICA INTERNACIONAL 06 de abril de 2011

DOMREP CONCERNED ABOUT INCREASE IN MALARIA

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic -- Dominican health authorities launched an education campaign Tuesday to fight an increase in malaria deaths.

At least six people have died so far this year and an additional 500 cases have been reported, the majority of them in the Caribbean country's southern region, Health Minister Bautista Rojas said. A total of four malaria deaths were recorded in all of 2010.

Some 100,000 health workers and volunteers are visiting impoverished communities around the capital of Santo Domingo this week to distribute pamphlets on how to prevent malaria and other diseases that are more common during the rainy season.

The country also is dealing with an outbreak of cholera, which has infected nearly 700 people and caused seven deaths. A cholera epidemic in neighboring Haiti has killed more than 4,000 people since October.

Fuente: Medisys

CONSULTANT MEDICAL DOCTOR DIES OF LASSA FEVER IN ADAMAWA

DISASTER struck in Adamawa State, as the outbreak of lassa fever claimed the life of a consultant medical doctor, working at the Federal Medical Centre in Yola. Two other persons are currently receiving treatment at Irrua Specialist Centre for the Control of Tropical and Infectious Diseases.

Dr Aliyu Danburam, Chief Medical Director of the Federal Medical Centre, Yola, who confirmed the outbreak, however, said that the epidemiological units of the Federal Ministry of Health, and the Federal Medical Centre, Yola, were working round the clock to contain the epidemic.

Dr Danburam said in early March, it was noticed that a few doctors at the medical centre, developed symptoms of viral haemorrhagic fever, after treating a patient. And that since the disease was not common to the environment, thus making the diagnosis difficult, they were referred to the specialist centre for the control of tropical and infectious diseases. He stated that it was at the specialist centre that it was confirmed that they had lassa fever, adding that the consultant, who was the index patient, eventually died while the two other doctors were still undergoing treatment.

He, however, disclosed that another personnel, a senior laboratory technologist, who died at the same period had cardiac failure and not lassa fever. Dr Danburam said due to the highly infectious nature of lassa fever, which he said could be catastrophic if not urgently brought under control, the federal epidemiological unit had established a surveillance squad at the medical centre, to screen all cases that could be remotely linked to the outbreak, while adequate medications and equipment were being put in place to meet future challenges.

Fuente: HealthMap