**Lassa Fever in Nigeria, by Dr C Ukpaka, Nigeria Centre for Disease Control**

**Abstract by Dr C Ukpaka, CEO Crystalife International and Project Consultant, Nigeria Centre for Disease Control.**

Lassa fever was discovered in 1969, in a town located in the North East of Nigeria, known as Lassa. It is a re-emerging tropical viral haemorrhagic fever, limited to the West / Central African Region.

Presently, there is a lassa fever epidemic affecting more than 23 states in Nigeria with 195 cases and 112 deaths as at 20th February 2016. This led to establishment of the Emergency Operations Unit for Lassa fever in Abuja, Nigeria by the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control NCDC in January 2016.

**Methodology**

Reviews and practical experiences on Lassa fever control in Nigeria will be collated and adapted for the conference in the form of a power-point presentation. The information to be shared at the conference will include epidemiology of Lassa fever, reasons for recurrence of Lassa fever, challenges to controlling Lassa fever in Nigeria. A summary of governmental response structures and interventional measures will be discussed.

**Conclusion**

Lassa fever is a major re-emerging tropical Disease in Africa. Against the backdrop of recurrent outbreaks, the efforts to control prevailing risk factors to contain the disease by the government will be shared at the conference.

**References:**

Nigeria Centre for Disease Control EOC documents, Feb 2016

National Council on Health, Abuja, Jan 2016.

WHO SoP on lassa fever.