



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Harare (Zimbabwe), Confirmed Typhoid Case

Disease Outbreak

Africa > Zimbabwe > Harare

11/16/2011

This Emergency Message alerts U.S. citizens that the Harare Health Department has announced that there have been four laboratory-confirmed cases of typhoid and one typhoid-related death in Harare as of November 14, 2011.

U.S. citizens residing in or visiting Harare should pay particular attention to personal hygiene and to take food and water safety precautions to reduce the risk of contracting typhoid. Please also ensure that your typhoid vaccination is up to date. Symptoms of typhoid include: fever, abdominal pain, and malaise.

The most effective prevention of typhoid-related diseases, as with other diarrheal diseases, is careful selection of food, water and beverages. Note: Typhoid vaccinations are only 50-80% protective. Therefore, vaccinated travelers and residents are still advised to take food, water and hygiene precautions.

Typhoid fever is a systemic disease caused by *Salmonella Typhi* bacteria and is transmitted via food and water that has been contaminated by feces from infected persons. Symptoms of typhoid are fever, headache, myalgia, malaise, nausea and abdominal pain. Diarrhea can occur early in the illness. Typhoid is treated with antibiotics and supportive care. Travelers and residents at higher risk of typhoid include those visiting friends and relatives in areas with poor sanitation.

Visit the CDC website for a list of Frequently Asked Questions about typhoid. The World Health Organization also has additional information.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the U.S. Embassy Harare website. You can also receive global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, Bureau of Consular Affairs website where you can find the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warning, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information. If you don't have internet access, current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or for callers from other countries, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444.



These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).