



**DIRECTOR GENERAL
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PRETORIA**

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CIRCULAR OF 2024

**TO: HEADS OF PROVINCIAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS, PRIVATE HEALTH
SECTOR AND ALL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS**

**REPORTING OF CASES AND DEATHS AS A RESULT OF FOOD-BORNE ILLNESS
AND AGRICULTURAL OR STOCK REMEDY POISONING TO NOTIFIABLE MEDICAL
CONDITION SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM**

1. The country has experienced an increasing number of deaths due to food-borne illness, and agricultural or stock remedy poisoning (pesticides, carbamates, organophosphates).
2. Food-borne illness and agricultural or stock remedy poisoning are Notifiable Medical Conditions (NMC). Healthcare professionals are required by law to notify all cases on the NMC Surveillance System (NMCSS). The notification is on a clinical suspicion and healthcare professionals should not wait for laboratory confirmation to notify cases.
3. Pursuant to the address by President Cyril Ramaphosa on the 15 November 2024 on the food-borne illnesses and deaths in children, all health care professionals in both public and private health sector must report the following within 24 hours to the Notifiable Medical Conditions Surveillance System: -
 - 3.1. Any case, suspected or confirmed, that presents with possible foodborne illness or agricultural or stock remedy poisoning (pesticides, carbamates, organophosphates).
 - 3.2. Any death due to possible food-borne illness or agricultural or stock remedy poisoning (pesticides, carbamates, organophosphates).

4. The NMCSS is available electronically and in paper-based format. For the electronic platform, notification can be made through web-based application or the mobile-based application for Android, Huawei and Apple. For the paper-based format, once information has been captured on the NMC form, the form should be e-mailed to NMCsurveillanceReport@nicd.ac.za or faxed to 086 639 1638 or the NMC hotline 072 621 3805. Form (s) can be sent via SMS, WhatsApp, email, fax.
5. For additional information contact NMC national technical team: NMCAppSupport@nicd.ac.za or 072 621 3805
6. This circular is to be implemented with immediate effect.



DR SSS BUTHELEZI
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF HEALTH
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