

Ecology of Transmission of the Deadly Lassa Virus from Rodents to Man across Various Flashpoints within Nigeria (Dr. Ayodeji Olayemi)

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Lassa fever is a virulent hemorrhagic disease that causes recurrent epidemics almost every year within Nigeria, resulting in numerous deaths and constituting a perennial problem for the country's health authorities. The dynamics of how transmission of the arenavirus that causes this illness occurs from its rodent reservoir hosts to humans have not been investigated in this country on a significant scale. This project seeks, using mainly molecular methods, to determine the prevalence of the Lassa fever virus in rodents across various spatial and temporal parameters in key localities within Nigeria, and also to discover particular human habits in these localities that encourage transmission of this virus from rodents to humans. The findings realized from this project will assist relevant health and governmental authorities in assessing the risk of future outbreaks as it particularly concerns primary transmission of the Lassa virus from rodents to humans.

Projektbeteiligte

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