Imported Monkeypox infection from Nigeria


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On Friday, 12 Oct Israeli Ministry of Health reported a third case of Monkeypox infection from Nigeria imported in Israel, that will add to the two cases recently imported in UK. All the cases acquired infection in Rivers state.

In the fall of 2017, Nigeria saw their 1st confirmed monkeypox outbreak in nearly 40 years, resulting in more than 200 confirmed and suspected cases. Although that outbreak was reportedly quelled in February [2018], a small number of isolated cases have continued to be reported over the past 6 months. Fortunately, the West African monkeypox virus is less virulent and less easily transmitted than its Central African counterpart. Although Nigeria continues to report only low levels of infection (see Nigeria CDC Monkeypox Update Epi Week 37: <https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/files/sitreps/6c3cf1e472c509190602a5d431c0af1e.pdf>), 3 cases exported from Nigeria in just over a month suggests the virus may be more active than believed. [Promed Archive Number: 20181013.6088822]

The laboratory diagnosis of laboratory infection can be provided by national reference laboratories, in Europe almost all of them are partners of EMERGE (www.emerge.rki.eu) and EVD-Labnet (www.evd-labnet.eu) projects/networks.


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