

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Manisha Juthani, MD
Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Directors of Health

FROM: Dr. Lynn Sosa, Director of Infectious Diseases and State Epidemiologist

DATE: October 1, 2024

SUBJECT: Update on Marburg Virus Disease Outbreak in Rwanda

Background information: Marburg virus, similar to Ebola virus, is a *filovirus* that can cause viral hemorrhagic fever (VHF). Symptoms include fever, headache, muscle/joint pain, rash, chest pain, gastrointestinal distress, and unexplained bleeding. Marburg has an incubation period of 2 to 21 days. Transmission is through direct contact with blood, bodily fluids, or contaminated objects from an infected person, including the recently deceased. Transmission is **not** airborne.

Current outbreak situation: There is currently an outbreak of Marburg Virus Disease (MVD) in the Republic of Rwanda. Cases in Rwanda as of October 15, 2024, include 62 ill and 15 deaths, with the first case reported on September 27, 2024. At this time, no cases have been reported in countries outside of Rwanda, including the United States.

Public health action: Effective October 16th, CDC is conducting public health entry screening of travelers (who have been in Rwanda in the prior 21 days) entering the United States. CDC will notify DPH of all travelers, and DPH will create a record in CTEDSS and notify the Local Health Department (LHD). Similar to previous VHF outbreaks, LHDs will be responsible for monitoring travelers according to [CDC recommendations](#).

Categories for returning travelers with monitoring recommendations:

Category of traveler	Risk assessment by CDC	Monitoring	Movement restrictions
US-based healthcare (HC) personnel who have been present in <i>any</i> healthcare facility in Rwanda*	Yes	Daily monitoring by LHD	No, as long as remain well. Avoid non-urgent HC interactions
Non-HC returning travelers who have been in a patient care area of a Rwanda healthcare facility in the previous 21 days (provided care, sought care, visitors)	Yes	Daily monitoring by LHD	No, as long as remain well. Avoid non-urgent HC interactions

Non-HC returning travelers with other potential exposures (Were present in a healthcare facility but not in patient care areas, attended a funeral or burial, performed burial work, performed clinical laboratory work associated with healthcare settings but did not enter patient care areas, were exposed to a person with acute febrile illness not known for suspected to be MVD)	Yes	Daily self-monitoring and intermittent monitoring by LHD	No, as long as remain well
Returning travelers without any exposures above	Yes	Daily self-monitoring, no regular LHD monitoring	No

* [Exception for certain US-based healthcare personnel](#)

We are expecting the number of returning travelers to Connecticut to be low with the vast majority being travelers that will not require regular LHD monitoring. DPH will be providing a webinar to LHDs to review the latest on this outbreak including tools for monitoring travelers. Questions prior to this webinar should be directed to the Epidemiology Program at 860-509-7994.

Webinar information: Wednesday, October 23rd at 9:00AM

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 298 605 196 876

Passcode: 7tPkYB

CDC is providing an update on the federal Marburg response on Monday, October 21st at 2pm. Please see information below to access that call:

Update from CDC's Division of State and Local Readiness: All-STLT Update Call for Marburg Response Updates that will be held on Monday, October 21, 2024, at 2 p.m. ET.

<https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1616653135?pwd=QoUTLjK0tWPYuKrDoVkXk3X27R1Zfj.1>

Passcode: P\$%Y&9jV

Resources: For more information on Marburg, please visit [About Marburg Disease | Marburg virus disease | CDC](#). Additional information and resources are linked below.

- HHS Factsheet: [Fact Sheet: HHS Actions to Support Response to Marburg Outbreak in Rwanda | HHS.gov](#)
- Initial Media Statement: [CDC Statement on Marburg Cases in Rwanda | CDC Newsroom](#)
- Situation Summary: [Marburg virus disease \(Marburg\) Situation Summary | Marburg | CDC](#)
- Rwanda country destination page: [Rwanda - Traveler view | Travelers' Health | CDC](#)
- Traveling to the United States from Rwanda:
 - [English Version](#)
 - [Kinyarwanda Version](#)
- For clinicians and health departments:
 - Health Alert Notice: [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) - 00517 | First Marburg Virus Disease Outbreak in the Republic of Rwanda \(cdc.gov\)](#)
 - Interim Recommendations for Public Health Management of U.S.-based Healthcare Personnel Returning from Rwanda: [Marburg Virus Disease: Interim Recommendations for Public Health Management of U.S.-based Healthcare Personnel Returning from Rwanda | Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers \(VHFs\) | CDC](#)
 - Public Health Management of People with Suspected or Confirmed Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers or High-Risk Exposures: [Public Health Management of People with Suspected or Confirmed VHF or High-Risk Exposures | Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers \(VHFs\) | CDC](#)
 - Interim Recommendations for Post-Arrival Public Health Management of Travelers from Rwanda: [Interim Recommendations for Post-Arrival Public Health Management of Travelers from Rwanda | Marburg | CDC](#)
- For organizations sending U.S.-based Personnel to Areas with Viral Hemorrhagic Fever Outbreaks: [Recommendations for Organizations Sending U.S.-based Personnel to Areas with VHF Outbreaks | Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers \(VHFs\) | CDC](#)

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November 6, 2024

Dear Local Health Partner,

We are contacting you to raise awareness about recent clusters and outbreaks of *Campylobacter* infections related to consumption of raw milk. These clusters and outbreaks have occurred in different parts of the state, involving raw milk produced and distributed or provided by different farms. The Department of Public Health is working with the Department of Agriculture and relevant local health departments on investigations of these clusters and outbreaks.

Campylobacteriosis is the most common bacterial foodborne infection in Connecticut. In 2023, a total of 838 cases of *Campylobacter* infection were reported statewide. To date in 2024, 792 cases of campylobacteriosis have been reported in the state. Interviewing reported cases to collect illness and exposure information is critical to identifying potential outbreaks. Currently, *Campylobacter* cases reported by Stamford and Middlesex hospitals are being interviewed by FoodNet/FoodCORE staff as part of an important project to assess antibiotic resistant infections. These *Campylobacter* cases reported by Stamford and Middlesex hospitals are identified in the CT Electronic Disease Surveillance System (CTEDSS) and marked in the "Notes" field as being interviewed by FoodNet/FoodCORE staff.

We are reminding local health departments to **interview all other *Campylobacter* cases** using the "General Enteric Diseases Interview Form" (GEDIF) for *Campylobacter* (attached). Completed GEDIF information should be entered directly into CTEDSS using the GEDIF Wizard, upon completion of the interview. We are also requesting that local health departments notify the Epidemiology and Emerging Infections Program (EEIP) at 860-509-7994 or DPH.EPI@ct.gov if you identify a case who reports raw milk consumption.

Please share this information with staff responsible for foodborne disease surveillance and follow-up. We appreciate your continued collaboration. If you have any questions, please contact Christina Turner (christina.turner@ct.gov) or Eileen Flaherty (eileen.flaherty@ct.gov) at DPH.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Sosa".

Lynn Sosa, MD
State Epidemiologist / Director of Infectious Diseases



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**Town of Somers
Police Department**

Monthly Report

September 2024

Total Calls For Service: 810
Traffic Accidents: 9
Investigative Reports: 9
Onsite DUI's: 0
Burglaries: 1
Larcenies: 0
Arrests: 5

Sept 14 & 28 – All Officers Completed their Annual Firearms Pistol Requalification at the State Police Range in Simsbury

Sept 19 - Staff Inspection Completed by the State Police Inspections Unit with No Deficiencies Identified

School Resource Officer - Conditional Offer for Kevin Dowe to Start January 1st

Dea Drug Takeback at Firehouse - Oct 26th 10am-1pm 16.8 lbs - Trunk 32 lbs

New Cruiser - Equipment to be Installed at McGovern MHQ in Middletown
Delivery Date TBD

ARPA Speed Enforcement Grant Continuing to be Utilized Around Town.



**Town of Somers
Police Department**

Monthly Report

October 2024

Total Calls For Service: 867
Traffic Accidents: 11
Investigative Reports: 11
Onsite DUI's: 2
Burglaries: 0
Larcenies: 2
Arrests: 5

Oct 8 – Threat Response Meeting with Superintendent of Schools

Oct 15 – Accelerant Detection K9 Demo at Senior Center with Det. Baisley & Gracie

Oct 26 - DEA Drug Takeback at Firehouse 16.8 / 32.2 LBS = 49 LBS Total

Oct 29 - Osborn C.I. Prison Visit

Oct 29 – Flock Safety Presentation in Rocky Hill

Oct 31 – Halloween on Maple Ridge Drive with Ofc. Mazza

ARPA Speed Enforcement Grant Continuing to be Utilized Around Town.

451 Main Street, Somers, CT 06071

860.749.4955 or Fax 860.763.7054



Somers Fire Department
Main St
Somers, CT 06071
860-749-7626

Somers Fire Department Monthly Report: October 2024

Calls for Service

In October 2024, the Somers Fire Department responded to a total of 172 calls, bringing the year-to-date total to 1,838 calls. This high volume of calls reflects both the dedication of our members and the increasing demands on our department to respond to various emergencies in our community.

State of Emergency and Fire Safety Ordinance

This month, Somers faced a heightened wildfire risk due to severe drought conditions. On October 1, the Board of Selectmen declared a state of emergency, enacting an emergency ordinance to prohibit all outdoor open flame fires. This restriction is critical in reducing the chance of wildfires during these extreme weather conditions, as our town's forests are currently highly vulnerable. We urge all residents to follow these guidelines and remain vigilant to protect our community.

Training and Operational Adjustments

Despite the burn ban, our department continued training on Monday nights, though we had to adjust activities due to the inability to conduct live fire training. We have implemented alternative training methods to ensure our members stay prepared and proficient, focusing on essential skills that can be safely practiced under current restrictions.

Community Events

October was a busy month for community engagement. We hosted a successful open house, inviting residents to tour the fire station and learn more about our operations. We also organized a trunk-or-treat event for families, which was well-attended and enjoyed by our community's young residents. Additionally, we held a car seat clinic at the firehouse, ensuring local families have safe and properly installed car seats.

Summary

October was a productive month for the Somers Fire Department, despite the challenges posed by the increased wildfire risk. We continue to monitor fire conditions closely and remain ready to respond to all emergencies while adapting our training and community outreach to meet these circumstances. Thank you to our community for their continued support and cooperation during this critical time.

Town of Somers
Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council
2025 Meeting Schedule

1st Thursday of Each Month – 8:00 am Fire Headquarters

January 2

February 6

March 6

April 3

May 1

June 5

July 3

August 7

September 4

October 2

November 6

December 4