

2026 Andes Hantavirus Cruise Passenger and Traveler Contact Monitoring

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Supporting Statement B

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1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

No statistical methods are used in this data collection.

The respondent universe for this information collection request is state and local health officials conducting monitoring and follow up activities related to passengers who were aboard the M/V Hondius and high-risk travelers identified as potential contacts of confirmed and probable cases.

2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID), Division of Global Migration and Quarantine (DGMQ) requests an emergency 180-day approval for a new information collection.

On May 4, 2026, CDC received a report of six hantavirus cases (two confirmed and four suspected) associated with cruise ship travel. The cruise on board the MV Hondius (Oceanwide Expeditions) departed from Ushuaia, Argentina, on April 1, 2026. The ship is carrying 147 passengers and crew. As of May 4 2026, seven cases (two laboratory confirmed cases of hantavirus and five suspected cases) have been identified, including three deaths, one critically ill patient and three individuals reporting mild symptoms. The outbreak is being managed through coordinated international and domestic response, and includes in-depth case and contact investigations, case isolation and care, medical evacuation and laboratory investigations.

CDC is currently sharing case and contact information as well as public health assessment of exposure risk to hantavirus for both passengers and travelers identified as contacts with state and local health departments through existing data-sharing infrastructure. State and local health departments utilize the contact information provided by CDC to prioritize and identify the level of follow-up needed based on the level of risk of exposure to confirmed and probable cases of hantavirus and determine if additional targeted public health measures are necessary.

State/local health department partners are contacting travelers in order to determine if they are symptomatic and require additional screening and testing for hantavirus. The purpose of this data collection using assessment surveys will be to inform state and local health departments regarding case and contact traveler monitoring activities and help evaluate the usability of this public health risk

assessment information provided by CDC for implementation of appropriate and effective outbreak control measures.

The purpose of this information collection is to inform CDC state/local health department and interagency decision makers on traveler and contact monitoring, clinical cases management and discharge of persons identified as part of the cruise ship investigation. This information will be used to 1) conduct case investigations and active monitoring of contacts data that are identified during hantavirus exposure events in domestic and international settings; 2) analyze epidemiologic, clinical, and laboratory data for cases and contacts to characterize the exposure event, identify transmission patterns (including potential person-to-person transmission for Andes virus), and guide control strategies; 3) generate reports describing demographic characteristics, clinical presentation, and timelines (e.g., exposure to symptom onset, symptom onset to detection) to inform response decision-making; and 4) inform the development of future guidance and recommendations for post-arrival traveler management for this current outbreak as well as future outbreaks of high-consequence pathogens.

3. Methods to maximize Response Rates and Deal with No Response

The information will be requested from state and local health departments. CDC will both send state and local health departments assessments to complete, as well as assist in the collection of data within the jurisdictions where the investigations are taking place. Jurisdictions will also be able to complete and submit data electronically into a secure CDC database, 1CDP.

4. Tests of Procedures or Methods to be undertaken

This is a new collection.

5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data

No statistical methods will be used to collect this data. Descriptive analyses will be conducted to help CDC and state and local jurisdictions prioritize and identify the level of follow-up needed for returned travelers and identified contacts based on the risk of exposure to confirmed and probable cases of hantavirus and determine if additional targeted public health measures are necessary. Therefore, no individuals were consulted.