

# FOREWORD

In this issue:

Foodborne diseases (FBDs) tend to be somewhat neglected in public health. Yet South Africa's listeriosis outbreak of 2017-2018 highlighted the morbidity, mortality and socio-economic consequences that can result from a single outbreak event. This issue presents a review of FBD outbreaks in South Africa since the listeriosis event, and shows that there are major gaps in FBD outbreak investigations that need attention.

The Ekurhuleni Population-Based Cancer Registry (EPBCR) is the first urban population-based cancer surveillance site for South Africa. The 2018 surveillance report presented here shows that the top five cancers amongst women were breast, cervical, colorectal, uterine and lung cancers. The top five cancers amongst men were prostate, colorectal, lung, melanoma and oesophageal cancers.

National surveillance reports in this issue include Hepatitis A incidence – showing a marked shift in transmission to older age groups during 2018 – and the epidemiology of respiratory pathogens in South Africa in 2019. Comprehensive respiratory pathogens data are collated annually from several surveillance programmes including pneumonia surveillance, influenza-like illness programmes and the respiratory morbidity surveillance system.

We trust you will find these reports informative and useful, and thank all contributors and reviewers for their inputs.

Basil Brooke, Editor