



**By email**

Our ref: 04/07/lh/134

21 July 2014

Dear

**Re: Sentido Crystal Bay Hotel, Egypt**

Thank you for your email of 4 July 2014 in which you asked for information about outbreaks at this hotel in Egypt. Your email has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the Act I can confirm that Public Health England (PHE) does not hold the information you have specified.

PHE's Travel and Migrant Health Section (TMHS) and Gastrointestinal (GI), Emerging and Zoonotic Infections (GEZI) Department have confirmed that between the period 1 March and 30 October 2013, there were no laboratory-confirmed cases of: Giardiasis (*Giardia lamblia*), Salmonella, Cryptosporidium, Campylobacter, hepatitis E and E. coli that were associated with a stay at the Sentido Crystal Bay Hotel in Hurghada, Egypt were reported to PHE.

Surveillance of travel-associated GI infections, and those associated with holiday resorts in particular, is a passive system. PHE's Standard Operating Procedure ([http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb\\_C/1287144757767](http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1287144757767)) states that health protection teams should voluntarily report only clusters of GI infection to TMHS, not single cases, as PHE is not resourced to respond to all sporadic cases of travel-associated GI disease. Cases that are reported to us are entered into a GI incidents database – this database was searched for cases of infection associated with the named resort and no cases were found.

Cases of travel-associated GI infection that are reported into HP Zone (the local PHE teams' public health management system) usually have limited details (such as specific resort/hotel or travel dates) as extensive public health action in the UK is not required for most travel-associated cases and therefore further information is not usually sought. However, for cases of GI infection where resort information is recorded, the system was searched for cases associated with the named resort and no cases were found.

GEZI (The Gastrointestinal, Emerging and Zoonotic Infections department) conduct enhanced surveillance of vero cytotoxin-producing E. coli (VTEC) <http://www.hpa.org.uk/Topics/InfectiousDiseases/InfectionsAZ/EscherichiaColiO157/Surveillance> and for hepatitis E <http://www.hpa.org.uk/Topics/InfectiousDiseases/InfectionsAZ/HepatitisE/Surveillance>.

Travel history is collected for cases acquired abroad. The databases were searched for cases associated with the named resort and no cases were found. Travel history to resort level is not routinely recorded by our laboratory surveillance system for other gastrointestinal pathogens.

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer them to me in the first instance. If you are dissatisfied with this response and would like to request an internal review, then please contact Mr George Stafford at the address above or by emailing [internalreview@phe.gov.uk](mailto:internalreview@phe.gov.uk).

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office if a complaint cannot be resolved through the PHE complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted by writing to Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer