A major outbreak of listeriosis in South Africa has extended over many months (~March 2017 until the present). In order to raise awareness to general population, the Department of Health and other institutions widely used the Five Keys to Safer Food through various channels to warn the general population, including high risk groups. The Five Keys to Safer Food were integrated into the new communication messages on listeriosis developed in February 2018 by the South African authorities in collaboration with WHO and are part of the recommendations of the WHO fact sheet on Listeriosis published in the six WHO official languages (http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/listeriosis/en/).

The Five Keys to Safer Food have been adopted from several years by the South African authorities both to train food handlers and educate the consumers, in particular in the context of the 2010 FIFA World Cup.