

Seven die of suspected food poisoning in Benue

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THE police in Benue State have confirmed that 12 people were recently affected in a case of food poisoning at Ikobi community in Apa Local Government Area of Benue State, while seven persons lost

their lives, although locals said 11 people died.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Catherine Anene, informed the *Nigerian Tribune* on the phone on Monday that the incident occurred last week Monday.

According to the PPRO,

a woman had gone to the house of her family members who died of food poisoning three months ago to clean up the house, only for her to pack some foodstuff from the house to her house.

The same food was said to have been cooked, while

those who ate the food were reported to have suffered severe illness.

The PPRO said: "About three months ago, there was a case of someone who died of food poisoning at a particular house in Ikobi community.

"Few months after the incident, precisely on November 14, a woman, possibly a family member of the deceased, went to the house of the deceased to clean it up and in the process, found food stuff there, which she brought to her house to cook.

"After cooking the food, she served some people and after that, 12 people suffered illness and were taken to hospital, but seven of them died and the other five who were rushed to the hospital for treatment have been reunited with their families."