

Cholera

Cholera Update

More guidelines, online courses, posters and videos can be found in our CHOLERATOOLBOX
<https://www.cholera.org>

Cholera is an acute diarrhoeal infection caused by eating or drinking food or water that is contaminated with the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*. Cholera remains a global threat to public health and is an indicator of inequity and lack of social development. The major underlying causes of potential outbreaks are poor environmental infrastructure, lack of health care services, lack of safe water and sanitation as well as increase population movement. Climate change becomes an additional trigger, as extreme climate events like cyclones, floods and droughts reduce access to clean water and create an ideal environment for cholera to thrive. 25 countries have reported cases since the beginning of 2023. According to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, the countries with the most cases (by 20 July 2023) are Afghanistan (23 298), Democratic Republic of Congo (8 469), Haiti (6701), Ethiopia (5964) and Cameroon (3067). The following issue brief will give you an update on the current cholera outbreak worldwide, including individual country strategies to combat the disease. Please find more information on the topic in our Cholera Toolbox

Context & Facts

Cholera. Key facts

World Health Organization WHO (2022)

Cholera Key Facts 30 March 2022

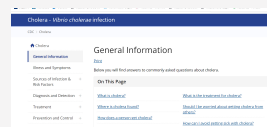
<https://www.medbox.org/document/cholera-key-facts>
<https://www.who.int/ar/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cholera>

Cholera: General Information

Centre for Disease Control and Prevention CDC (2023)

Last Reviewed: 7 August 2023

<https://www.medbox.org/document/cholera-general-information#GO>
<https://www.cdc.gov/cholera/general/index.html>



Cholera - Q & A - Fact Sheet UN Children's Fund UNICEF (2019)

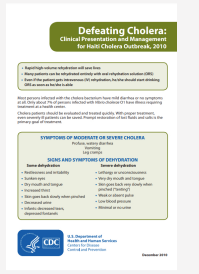
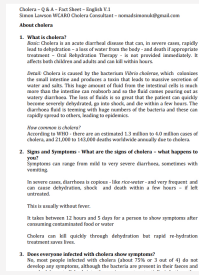
Fact Sheet about Cholera

<https://www.medbox.org/pdf/5e148832db60a2044c2d5f86>
<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Cholera%20-%2026A%20Eng%20V1.pdf>

Defeating Cholera Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CDC (2010)

Clinical presentation and management for Haiti Outbreak

<https://www.medbox.org/pdf/5e148832db60a2044c2d1b78>
<https://www.cdc.gov/cholera/pdf/clinicalmanagement.pdf>

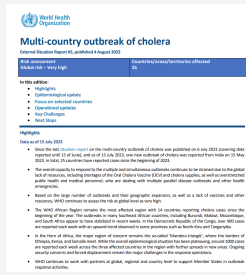


Situation Reports & Updates

Multi-country outbreak of cholera, External situation report #5 - 4 August 2023 World Health Organisation WHO (2023)

External situation report, 4 August 2023

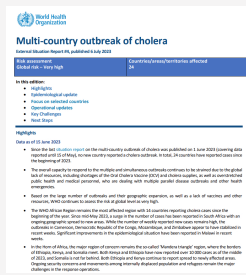
<https://www.medbox.org/pdf/64d9e602eb008ad4c30ed144>
https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/situation-reports/20230803_multi-country_outbreak-of-cholera_sitrep-5.pdf?sfvrsn=7bcfab5_4&download=true



Multi-country outbreak of cholera, External situation report #4 - 6 July 2023 World Health Organisation WHO (2023)

Since the last situation report on the multi-country outbreak of cholera was published on 1 June 2023 (covering data reported until 15 of May), no new country reported a cholera outbreak. In total, 24 countries have reported cases since the beginning of 2023.

<https://www.medbox.org/document/multi-country-outbreak-of-cholera-external-situation-report-4-6-july-2023#GO>
https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/situation-reports/20230706_multi-country_outbreak-of-cholera_sitrep-4.pdf?sfvrsn=8be2e707_3&download=true

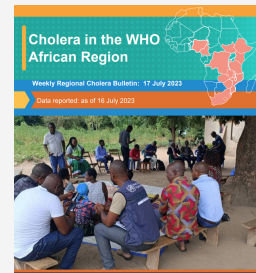


Cholera in the WHO African Region: Weekly Regional Cholera Bulletin: 17 July 2023

World Health Organisation WHO (2023)

The cholera outbreak has affected 14 countries in the WHO African Region. The climate-induced natural disasters such as cyclone and flooding in the southern African region and drought in the Horn of Africa led to increase in cases of cholera in many of the affected countries. With the rainy season commencement in the west African region there is risk of more cholera outbreaks on the horizon

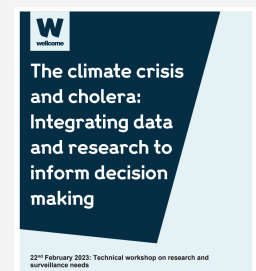
<https://www.medbox.org/document/cholera-in-the-who-african-region-weekly-regional-cholera-bulletin-17-july-2023#GO>
https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/372036/AFRO%20Cholera%20Bulletin.21_Final.pdf



The climate crisis and Cholera: Integrating data and research to inform decision making

Global Task Force on Cholera Control GTFCC (2023)

<https://www.medbox.org/document/the-climate-crisis-and-cholera-integrating-data-and-research-to-inform-decision-making#GO>
<https://www.gtfcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/the-climate-crisis-and-cholera-integrating-data-and-research-to-inform-decision-making-2023-report.pdf>

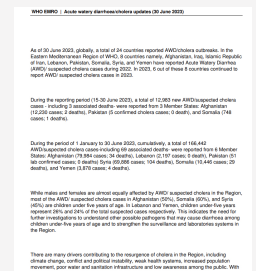


Acute watery diarrhoea/cholera updates (30 June 2023)

World Health Organization

As of 30 June 2023, globally, a total of 24 countries reported AWD/cholera outbreaks. In the Eastern Mediterranean Region of WHO, 8 countries namely, Afghanistan, Iraq, Islamic Republic of Iran, Lebanon, Pakistan, Somalia, Syria, and Yemen have reported Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD)/ suspected cholera cases during 2022. In 2023, 6 out of these 8 countries continued to report AWD/ suspected cholera cases in 2023.

<https://www.medbox.org/document/acute-watery-diarrhoeacholera-updates-30-june-2023#GO>
<https://reliefweb.int/attachments/febb8cfd-27a9-4eeb-8a10-f37432484879/acute-watery-diarrhoea-cholera-updates-30-june-2023-.pdf>

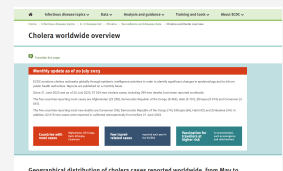


Cholera worldwide overview

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (2023)

Monthly updates

<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/all-topics-z/cholera/surveillance-and-disease-data/cholera-monthly>



Health Department provides update on Cholera outbreak in South Africa Health Department Republic of South Africa (2023)

5 July 2023

<https://www.medbox.org/document/health-department-provides-update-on-cholera-outbreak-in-south-africa#GO>
<https://www.health.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Health-Department-provides-update-on-cholera-outbreak-in-SA-05-July-2023.pdf>



Malawi contains cholera outbreak World Health Organization WHO (2023)

16 August 2023

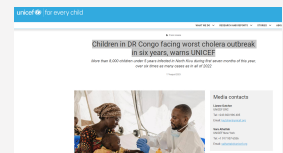
<https://www.medbox.org/document/malawi-contains-cholera-outbreak#GO>
<https://www.afro.who.int/countries/malawi/news/malawi-contains-cholera-outbreak>



Children in DR Congo facing worst cholera outbreak in six years, warns UNICEF UNICEF

17 August 2023

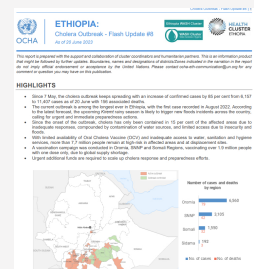
<https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/children-dr-congo-facing-worst-cholera-outbreak-six-years-warns-unicef>



Ethiopia: Cholera Outbreak - Flash Update #8 (as of 20 June 2023) United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs(2023)

June 2023

<https://www.medbox.org/document/ethiopia-cholera-outbreak-flash-update-8#GO>
<https://reliefweb.int/attachments/56daeb34-8e9f-47de-b652-fb26d69e18e7/Ethiopia%20-%20Cholera%20Flash%20Update%20%238%20final2.pdf>



Outbreak Prevention and Control

Ending Cholera. A global roadmap to 2030 Global Task Force on Cholera Control GTFCC (2017)

<https://www.medbox.org/document/ending-cholera-a-global-roadmap-to-2030#GO>
<https://www.fondation-merieux.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/ending-cholera-a-global-roadmap-to-2030.pdf>



Identification of Priority Areas for Multisectoral Interventions (PAMIs) for cholera control

Global Task Force on Cholera Control GTFCC (2023)

The identification of Priority Areas for Multisectoral Interventions (PAMIs, sometimes referred to as 'hotspots') for cholera control is among the first steps for a cholera-affected country to develop or revise a National Cholera Plan (NCP) for cholera control. PAMI identification is critical to maximize the potential impact of NCP implementation on cholera control.

<https://www.medbox.org/document/identification-of-priority-areas-for-multisectoral-interventions-pamis-for-cholera-control#GO>

<https://www.gtfcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2023-gtfcc-pami-cholera-control-guidance.pdf>

Interim Guiding Document to Support Countries for the Development of their national cholera plan

Global Task Force on Cholera Control GTFCC (2020)

The Global Task Force on Cholera Control (GTFCC) launched Ending Cholera: A Global Roadmap to 2030 (Global Roadmap) (1), a strategy that aims to reduce global cholera deaths by 90% and eliminate the disease in at least 20 countries by 2030. It is organized according to three main axes: • Ensuring early detection and response to contain outbreaks; (2) • Adopting a multisectoral approach to prevent and control cholera in hotspots; and • Establishing an effective coordination mechanism for technical support, resource mobilization and partnership at local and global levels.

<https://www.medbox.org/document/interim-guiding-document-to-support-countries-for-the-development-of-their-national-cholera-plan#GO>

<https://www.gtfcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/gtfcc-interim-guiding-document-to-support-countries-for-the-development-of-their-national-cholera-plan.pdf>

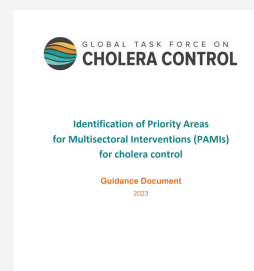
Cholera prevention, control strategies, challenges and World Health Organization initiatives in the Eastern Mediterranean Region: A narrative review

Buliva E. et al.

Cholera remains a significant public health threat in many countries worldwide. In resource-constrained settings, it disproportionately affects thousands of poor and vulnerable populations

<https://www.medbox.org/document/cholera-prevention-control-strategies-challenges-and-world-health-organization-initiatives-in-the-eastern-mediterranean-region-a-narrative-review#GO>

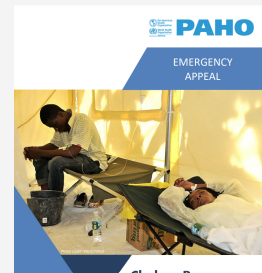
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10160509/pdf/main.pdf>



Emergency Appeal: Cholera resurgence in Haiti
Pan American Health Organization PAHO ; World Health Organization WHO (2022)

After more than three years without cases, Haiti reported on 2 October 2022 a cluster of cholera cases in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince, just as the country was on the verge of being declared cholera-free. This cholera resurgence in Haiti is happening in a complex operational context, amid a volatile socio-political environment marked by blockades, fuel shortages, criminal gang activity and rampant insecurity. Civil unrest and lack of access to the affected communities are deepening the complex humanitarian crisis and hindering emergency response efforts.

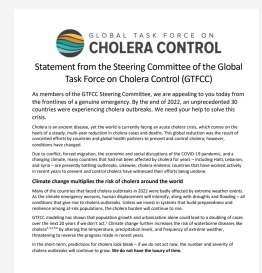
<https://www.medbox.org/document/emergency-appeal-cholera-resurgence-in-haiti#GO>
<https://www.paho.org/en/file/117806/download?token=24eDh3kj>



Statement from the Steering Committee of the Global Task Force on Cholera Control (GTFCC)
Global Task Force On Cholera Control GTFCC (2023)

Many of the countries that faced cholera outbreaks in 2022 were badly affected by extreme weather events. As the climate emergency worsens, human displacement will intensify, along with droughts and flooding – all conditions that give rise to cholera outbreaks. Unless we invest in systems that build preparedness and resilience among at-risk populations, the cholera burden will continue to rise

<https://www.medbox.org/document/statement-from-the-steering-committee-of-the-global-task-force-on-cholera-control-gtfcc#GO>
<https://www.gtfcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/gtfcc-steering-committee-statement-1.pdf>



Emergency health kits
World Health Organization WHO (2022)

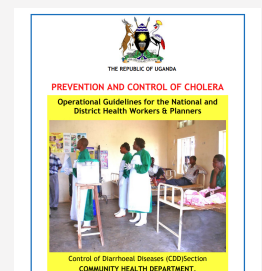
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/emergency-health-kits/revised-cholera-kits>
<https://www.medbox.org/document/emergency-health-kits#GO>



Prevention and Control of Cholera Uganda
Ministry of Health Uganda, Control of Diarrheal Diseases (2017)

Operational Guidelines for the national and district health workers & planners. These new approaches include use of selective chemotherapy, Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs), Zinc for treatment of cholera in children and complementary use of OCV

<https://www.medbox.org/document/prevention-and-control-of-cholera-uganda#GO>
https://health.go.ug/sites/default/files/Final%20CHOLERA%20GUIDELINES%202017_0.pdf



Zimbabwe Multi-Sectoral Cholera Elimination Plan 2018-2028
 World Health Organization WHO (2018); Higherlife Foundation; Cholera Secretariat Zimbabwe

Multisectoral Cholera Elimination Plan

<https://www.medbox.org/pdf/61b9eb48ebcebc2dc14e97f4>
https://www.afro.who.int/sites/default/files/2021-09/ZIMBABWE-MULTI-SECTORALCHOLERA-ELIMINATION-PLAN_1.pdf



Global Strategic preparedness, readiness and response plan for Cholera
 World Health Organization WHO (2023)

Cholera is a major health risk in many parts of the world, affecting millions of people every year. Since mid-2021, the world has been facing an acute upsurge of the 7th cholera pandemic, which is characterized by the number, size and concurrence of multiple outbreaks, the spread to areas that had been free of cholera for decades and alarmingly high mortality rates. The mortality associated with these outbreaks is of particular concern as many countries have reported higher case fatality ratios (CFR) than in previous years



<https://www.medbox.org/document/global-strategic-preparedness-readiness-and-response-plan-for-cholera#GO>
https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/documents/emergencies/global-cholera-sprp-v7-2023-05-19_cleared.pdf?sfvrsn=7b5f7ced_1&download=true

UNHCR Cholera Response Plan October 2022- Marc 2023
 The UN Refugee Agency UNHCR (2022)

Cholera is an acute diarrhoeal infection caused by ingesting contaminated food or water. It can spread rapidly in areas with inadequate access to safe water, sanitation and health care.

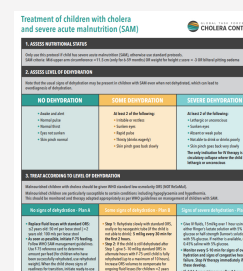
<https://www.medbox.org/document/unhcr-cholera-response-plan-october-2022-march-2023#GO>
<https://www.unhcr.org/lb/wp-content/uploads/sites/16/2022/10/UNHCR-Cholera-Response-Plan-October-2022-March-2023.pdf>

Treatment Guidelines

Treatment of children with cholera and severe acute malnutrition (SAM)
 Global Task Force on Cholera Control (2019)

protocol if child has severe acute malnutrition (SAM), otherwise use standard protocols. SAM criteria: Mid-upper arm circumference <11.5 cm (only for 6-59 months) OR weight for height z score < -3 OR bilateral pitting oedema

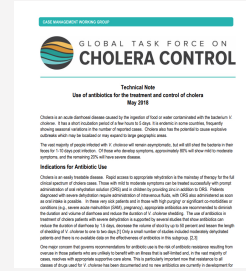
<https://www.medbox.org/document/treatment-of-children-with-cholera-and-severe-acute-malnutrition-sam#GO>
<https://www.gtfcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/gtfcc-job-aid-treatment-of->



[children-with-cholera-and-severe-acute-malnutrition.pdf](#)

Use of antibiotics for the treatment and control of cholera
Global Task Force on Cholera Control (2018)

Cholera is an acute diarrhoeal disease caused by the ingestion of food or water contaminated with the bacterium *V. cholerae*. It has a short incubation period of a few hours to 5 days. It is endemic in some countries, frequently showing seasonal variations in the number of reported cases. Cholera also has the potential to cause explosive outbreaks which may be localized or may expand to large geographic areas

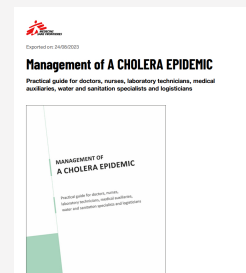


<https://www.medbox.org/document/use-of-antibiotics-for-the-treatment-and-control-of-cholera#GO>

<https://www.gtfcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/gtfcc-technical-note-on-use-of-antibiotics-for-the-treatment-of-cholera.pdf>

Management of a cholera epidemic
Médecins sans Frontières MSF (2018)

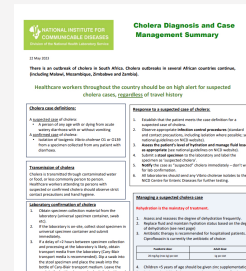
Practical guide for doctors, nurses, laboratory technicians, medical auxiliaries, water and sanitation specialists and logisticians



<https://www.medbox.org/document/management-of-a-cholera-epidemic#GO>
<https://medicalguidelines.msf.org/sites/default/files/pdf/guideline-800-en.pdf>

Cholera Diagnosis and Case Management Summary
National Institute for Communicable Diseases (2023)

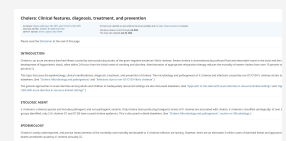
Healthcare workers throughout the country should be on high alert for suspected cholera cases, regardless of travel history



<https://www.medbox.org/document/cholera-diagnosis-and-case-management-summary#GO>
https://www.nicd.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Cholera-Diagnosis-and-Case-Management_v2_22-May.pdf

Cholera: Clinical features, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention
LaRocque, R.; S.B. Calderwood and A. Bloom (2020)

Clinical features, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention



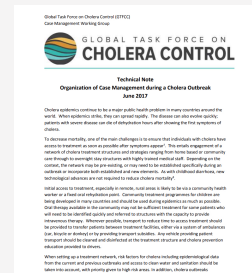
<https://www.medbox.org/document/cholera-clinical-features-diagnosis-treatment-and-prevention#GO>

<https://www.uptodate.com/contents/cholera-clinical-features-diagnosis-treatment-and-prevention/print>

Organization of Case Management during a Cholera Outbreak Global Task Force on Cholera Control ;World Health Organisation (2017)

Cholera epidemics continue to be a major public health problem in many countries around the world. When epidemics strike, they can spread rapidly. The disease can also evolve quickly; patients with severe disease can die of dehydration hours after showing the first symptoms of cholera.

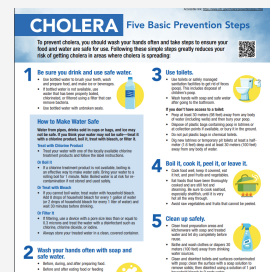
<https://www.medbox.org/document/organization-of-case-management-during-a-cholera-outbreak#GO>
<https://www.gtfcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/gtfcc-technical-note-on-the-organization-of-case-management-during-a-cholera-outbreak.pdf>



Information & Education Material & Videos

Five Basic Cholera Prevention Steps Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CDC (2023)

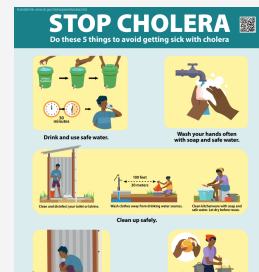
<https://www.medbox.org/document/five-basic-cholera-prevention-steps#GO>
<https://www.cdc.gov/cholera/pdf/Cholera->



Stop Cholera Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CDC (2023)

If you live or visit an area where cholera is present or has happened before, learn about cholera and take these steps to prevent getting sick.

<https://www.cdc.gov/cholera/pdf/posters/>
<https://www.medbox.org/document/stop-cholera#GO>



Cholera: Instructions for health workers World Health Organization WHO (2023)

Sources of infection

<https://www.medbox.org/document/cholera-instructions-for-health-workers#GO>
<https://www.emro.who.int/images/stories/csr/documents/cholera-instructions-for-health-workers.pdf>



How to Hand rub? World Health Organization WHO (2009)

Poster regarding handwashing

<https://www.medbox.org/pdf/5e148832db60a2044c2d20b5>
<https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-s>

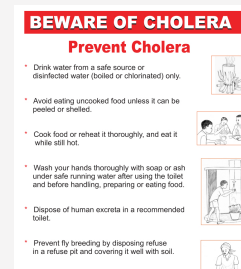


Beware of Cholera

Ministry of Child Welfare, Zimbabwe World Health Organisation WHO; UNIFEC (2013)

Poster for the prevention of Cholera

<https://www.medbox.org/document/beware-of-cholera-yambiro-nezve-korera#GO>
https://www.kznhealth.gov.za/publicity/Beware_of_Cholera_A4.pdf



The Story of Cholera

Global Health Media Project (2012)

The Story of Cholera was produced in collaboration with award-winning animator Yoni Goodman. This animation covers cholera transmission, prevention, signs, and care in a simple and accessible way. The film follows evidence-based guidelines, has been field-tested, and reviewed for accuracy and content. Download flashcards and mobil phone versions from the website



<https://www.medbox.org/document/the-story-of-cholera#GO>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jG1VNSCsP5Q>

Oral Re-Hydration Solution. Video

Scientific Animations without borders SAWBO (2017)

Cholera is an intestinal infection caused by bacteria known as *Vibrio cholerae*. The main symptoms of this disease are diarrhea and vomiting, which both lead to rapid dehydration in people with this potential fatal disease. Keeping people hydrated, long enough so that they are able to seek medical attention, is critical for reducing mortality rates associated with this disease. You can download this video in multiple languages: French, Amharic, Bengali, Chichewa, Igbo, etc.



<https://www.medbox.org/document/oral-re-hydration-solution-video#GO>
<https://sawbo-animations.org/video.php?video=//www.youtube.com/embed/HFBVgulhbp4>