



South Sudan: Cholera Outbreak Situation Report

Situation report: No. 003

Date of onset of outbreak: 22 February 2023

Reporting date: 10 March 2023

Data Source: State Ministry of Health and National Public Health Laboratory



Cholera response | Cumulative figures from 22 February to 9 March 2023

248

Cases

1

Death

0.4%

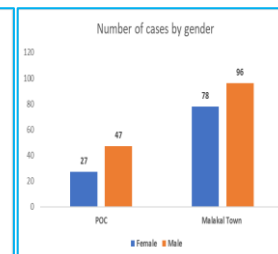
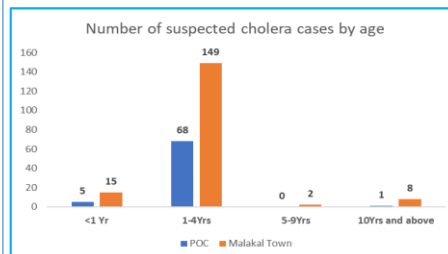
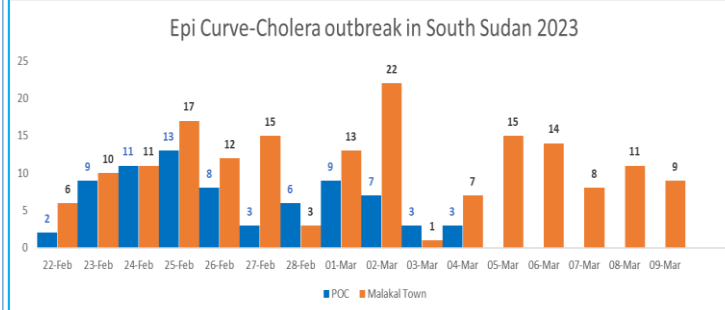
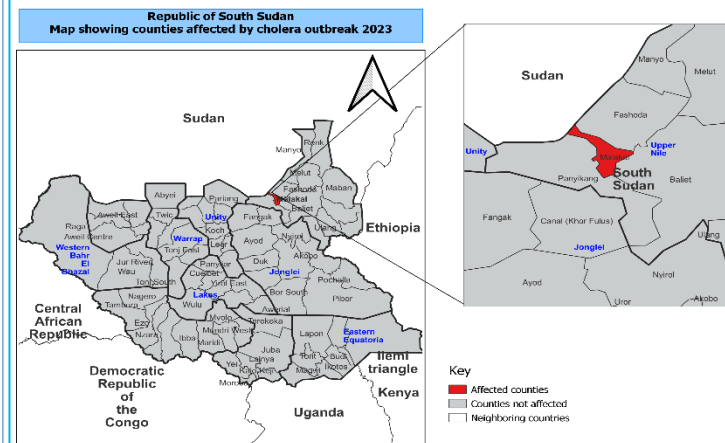
CFR

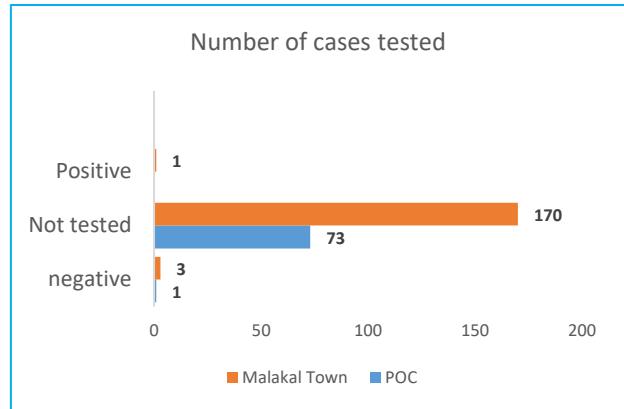
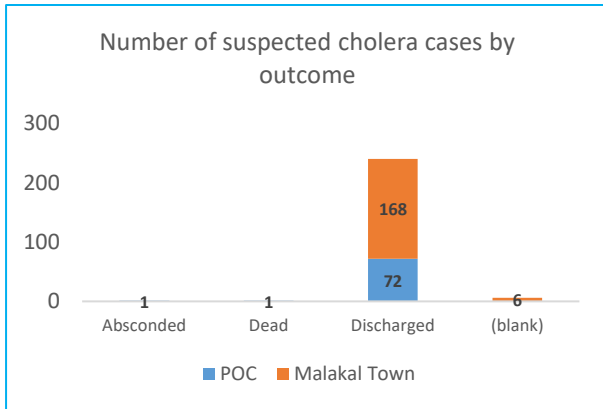
Not graded

Grade

Key Weekly Highlights as of 09 March 2023

- 28 new Cholera cases have been recorded in the past 48 hours.
- Zero new death has been recorded in the past 24 hours.
- Cumulatively, 248 cholera cases and 1 death (CFR- 0.4%) has been recorded since the declaration of the cholera outbreak on 7 March 2023.
- Overall, the age range between 1-4years are mostly affected with 217 (86%) of the 248 cases reported.
- Most of the cases (248) representing 58% (143) of the cases are males while females account for 42% (105).
- 174 (70%) of the cases are from Malakal Town, while 74 (30%) are from Malakal Protection of Civilians Sites (POC).
- Most areas affected are Jalaba (25), Malakia (21), Assosa (23), PoC (20), Rei (12), Muderia (8), Fire Brigade (8) and S2B (5).
- Oral Cholera vaccination campaign has been planned to take place on 15 March 2023 targeting 53,000 individuals aged 1year & above in the POC & Malakal town.
- The current cholera outbreak is localized in Malakal located in the smallest county in Upper Nile State on the side boarding Sudan.





Key Interventions

Coordination

- Ongoing National & State Cholera Taskforces continue to meet regularly support the ongoing response.
- A multisectoral National and State RRT continue to provide epidemiological investigation and technical support to the response interventions in Malakal County.

Surveillance

- WHO & partners continue to update the Cholera line-list from CTUs/CTCs.
- Cholera case definitions, case investigation, & sample collection tools were distributed to health facilities and community level to strengthen surveillance.
- A joint active case search is being conducted by both the National & State RRT teams in Malakal County.
- WHO is supporting the orientation of the SMOH-M&E team, and the MSF-Spain team using the eEWARS cholera line-list.

Case management

- The State ministry of health is working closely IMC to conduct triage in health facilities for cholera and referring to Malakal Teaching hospital.
- WHO is working closely with SMOH & partners to support and set up handwashing facilities at established ORP sites.
- WHO and state MOH continue to provide case definition and IEC materials to the health facilities in POC & Malakal town.
- Total number of new admissions are 09 with 00 case left against medical advice (LAMA).

Infection Prevention & Control/WASH

- WHO is supporting MOH and partners in conducting an environment hygiene assessment in 5 water points and water source drainage systems, to assess the functionality of the wastewater draining system across the POC.
- MOH with support from WHO and partners conducted an assessment on disposal of sewage disposal and solid waste in 4 sectors of sanitary facilities (S1=7, S2=15, S3=4, S4=4). The assessment team provided guidance on waste management in these sectors.
- WHO and partners are supporting the sanitary survey in Malakal town to assess the risk of open defecation and ensure that the health facilities are supported with disinfectants (soap).
- WHO continue to support the WASH partners (IOM and WVI) in water quality testing training to ensure all the water supplied have free residual Chlorine (FRC).

Risk Communication & Community Engagement (RCCE)

- Ongoing radio talk shows and jingles spots.
- UNICEF is working closely with WHO and partners to support the distribution of 107 IEC materials in Malakal town and POC.
- Distribution of 35 megaphones (25 in Malakal town 10 megaphones in POC) to facilitate health promoters to accelerate cholera awareness and preventive messages.
- Cholera awareness was conducted in 2 primary schools (Comboni Malakal, St. Andrew) and Assosa market.

Laboratory

- MOH and WHO are providing orientation for partners on sample collection, filling of cholera investigation forms, and testing using RDT.
- 4 suspected Cholera samples were collected with 2 testing positive on RDT all will be sent to Juba for further laboratory investigation (culture & PCR).

Oral Cholera Vaccination (OCV)

- MOH with support from WHO and Partners are finalizing the pre-campaign activities for Oral Cholera Vaccination.
- The implementation of the OCV is scheduled for 15 March 2023.
- WHO is submitting a new request to the International Coordination Group (ICG) for additional oral cholera vaccines.

Logistics and supplies

- WHO is conducting the Quantification of additional supplies required for the response.



Challenges

- Inadequate access to safe & clean water due to limited WASH supplies.
- Sub-optimal risk communication and community engagement in affected high-risk locations on cholera prevention and control measures.
- Inadequate funding for partners to respond.
- Lack of designated ambulance for the referral of cholera cases and designated vehicle for the safe dignified burial (SDB) team.
- Identification and training of the SDB team.
- Overcrowding in the POC due to the continued influx of IDPs poses a major challenge to the limited WASH facilities in the POC.
- Need for additional cholera kit and investigation kit.
- Lack of case definition and IEC materials in health facilities.

Way forward

- Provision of clean and safe water.
- Accelerate the RCCE interventions at POC and Malakal town.
- Finalized the cholera response plan and budget for resource mobilization.
- Designate an ambulance to support the referral of cholera cases
- Conduct training for the SDB team.
- Quantify and ship additional cholera kits and investigation kits to Malakal County.
- Print and distribute IEC materials

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