



South Sudan: Cholera Outbreak Situation Report

Situation report: No. 005

Date of onset of outbreak: 22 February 2023

Reporting date: 12 March 2023

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



Cholera response | Cumulative figures from 22 February to 12 March 2023

269

Cases

1

Death

0.4%

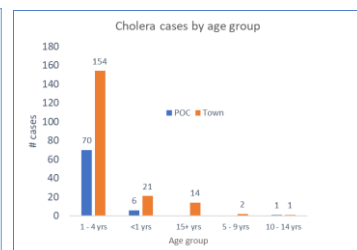
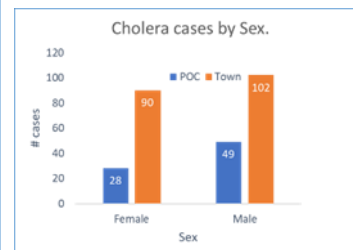
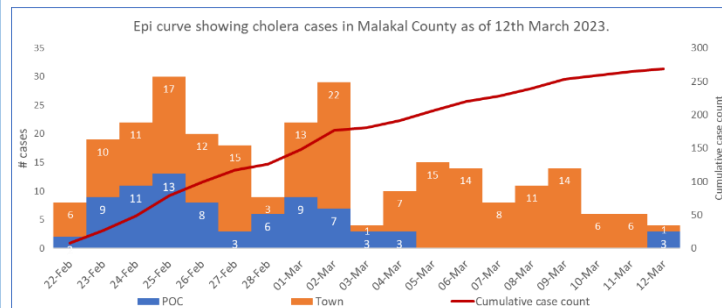
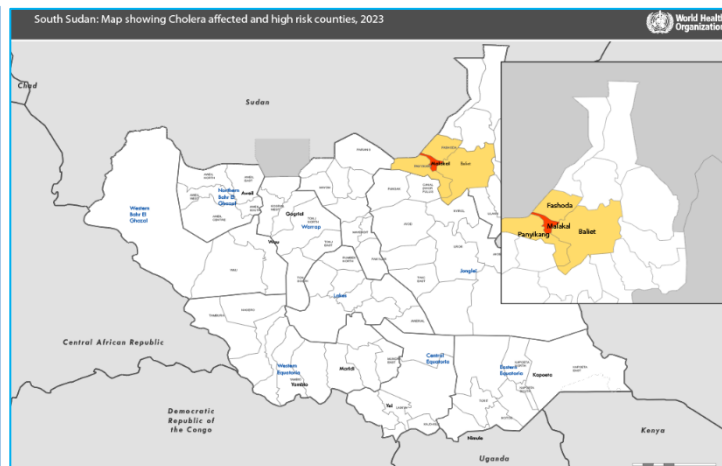
CFR

Not graded

Grade

Key Weekly Highlights as of 12 March 2023

- Four (4) new Cholera cases have been recorded in the past 24 hours.
- Zero new death has been recorded in the past 24 hours.
- Cumulatively, 269 cholera cases and 1 death (CFR-0.37%) has been recorded since the onset of the outbreak.
- Overall, 151(56%) of the cases are males and 118(44%) are females.
- The age group 1 - 4 years are the most affected with 224(83%)
- 192 (72%) of the cases are from Malakal Town, while 77 (29%) are from Malakal Protection of Civilians Sites (POC).
- 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 and State Cholera Taskforces continue to meet regularly to provide operational and strategic guidance to 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 and partners continue to update and support data verification, harmonization and analysis across response pillars.
- A joint active case search is being conducted by both the National and State RRT teams at health facility and community levels in Malakal County.
- Surveillance heightened in at risk locations bordering Malakal in Upper Nile State
- WHO is supporting the orientation of the State Ministry of Health (SMOH)-Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) team, and the MSF-Spain team on the electronic data collection tool or platform (eEWARS) to populate the cholera line-list.

Case management

- The state ministry of health is working closely with IMC to conduct triage in health facilities for cholera and referring to Malakal Teaching hospital.
- WHO is working closely with SMOH and partners to support and set up handwashing facilities at established ORP sites.
- Prepositioning of standardized Case Management charts to all IPs supporting CTUs (Case Definition to be displayed at HFs, ORPs and CTUs)

Infection Prevention & Control/WASH

- Water quality bacteriological test conducted in the humanitarian hub. Results will be shared during the week.
- Cleaning of 23 water storage tanks completed in Malakal POC
- Additional water storage tank replaced in Sector 2 Bloc P (increasing from 15,000 liters to 20,000 liters)
- Registration of institutions (schools and Health center) to receive handwashing facility and laundry soaps. The handwashing facility will also be installed in an identified places in the Market.
- Conducted joint WASH facilities assessment with RRC and IDP representatives in Malakal.



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.
- Ongoing daily Hygiene promotion activities on key cholera messages (causes, symptoms and prevention measures), and airing of pre-recorded cholera preventive measures (Nile FM Radio).

Laboratory

- MOH and WHO are providing orientation for partners on sample collection, filling of cholera investigation forms, and testing using RDT.
- Four (4) suspected Cholera samples were collected with 2 testing positive on RDT and they have been shipped to Juba for further laboratory investigation (culture & PCR). All four samples have been received by the NPHL and currently undergoing culture and PCR testing.

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.
- WHO is hiring 2 additional vehicles to support response activities in Malakal.

Challenges

- Inadequate access to safe and 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 RDT testing of suspected cholera cases at subnational level, most especially, health facilities and treatment centers.



- Inadequate number of samples transported to the NPHL for further laboratory investigation.
- 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.
- Inadequate of case definition and IEC materials in health facilities.

Way forward

- Provision of clean and safe water.
- Enhance cholera RDT testing of suspected cholera cases at health facilities and treatment centers.
- Improve sample collection and transportation to the NPHL for further testing.
- Accelerate the RCCE interventions at POC and Malakal town.
- Finalize 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
- Fixing of 02 Bladder tank-10M³- to increase water productivity in the Daniel Comboni 1& 2 IDPs Camp with installation and construction Tap-stand platform concrete with 12taps.
- Mobile sanitation activity in Malakal IDPs camps and at host community's households' level to maintain clean environment (digging trenches, construction of dumping Pits for waste management.
- Meeting with Block leaders to discuss on their engagement in the response (PoC)
- Decommission of non-functional latrines in the PoC
- Coordination with MSF on WASH NFI distribution targeting the affected cases after discharge.

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