



World Health
Organization
Nigeria

75
HEALTH
FOR ALL

APRIL 2023 | ISSUE 4

MAKING PEOPLE HEALTHIER



<https://www.afro.who.int/countries/nigeria>

WHO supports Cross River State to combat cholera outbreak



1A patient on IV fluids at Ofatura PHC, Obubra LGA

Cholera is endemic in Nigeria. It is highly contagious and occurs in places without safe water and proper sanitation. It causes profuse diarrhoea and vomiting, and without treatment can quickly lead to severe dehydration followed by death.

At about 6:40 pm on 17 January 2023, Gift Sunday-James, (35 years) shouts for help as she approaches the Primary Health Centre (PHC) located in Ovomum, Obabura Local Government Area (LGA), in Cross River State.

Her brother Emmanuel Sunday-James, conveyed in a taxi, had been stooling and vomiting continuously and was now dehydrated and could not move.

“As a farmer, my usual practice was to drink water from the stream near my farm” says Mr Emmanuel.

On that fateful day Mr Emmanuel fell ill, he recalled drinking water from the stream. “I was passing watery stool and vomiting for about four hours after getting home. I felt like I was dying, and I am grateful for the quick intervention I got at the health facility, he says.

At the clinic, Mr Emmanuel was placed on Intravenous Fluid (IVU) and subsequently on oral rehydration solution.

Furthermore, a Rapid Diagnostic Test (RDT) was conducted on his stool sample and it tested positive for cholera.

Mr Emmanuel has since been discharged and now advises people to drink purified water either by boiling or using water purifiers.

“I don’t want anybody to experience what I went through,” he says.

Interrupting the outbreak transmission

Aside from Mr Emmanuel, many people have reported cases of stooling and vomiting in other LGAs (Abi, Biase and Obabura, and Ikom, Etung). While some got better after being hospitalized, some died from the disease particularly those who reported late for treatment.

An epidemiological report from the State Ministry of Health shows that 638 suspected cases and 17 deaths have been reported between December 2022 and February 2023 in the affected LGAs.



Coordination meeting with the Commissioner of health and key stakeholders

Nigeria celebrates WHO at 75

Nigeria joins the globe to commemorate the 2023 World Health Day, which also doubles as the 75th anniversary of the World Health Organization (WHO).

On April 7, 1948, 55 member countries came together and founded the WHO, with the mandate to promote health, keep the world safe, and serve the vulnerable – so that everyone, everywhere can attain the highest level of health and well-being.

Addressing journalists and stakeholders at a Press briefing on 06 April 2023 to celebrate the milestone anniversary, the Minister of Health, Dr Osagie Ehanire, says WHO has been a significant force in keeping the world safe and serving the vulnerable – so everyone everywhere can attain the highest level of health and well-being.

Dr Ehanire expressed appreciation to WHO for the numerous contributions to the health sector and the well-being of Nigerians at large.

"I want to congratulate the WHO on this 75th anniversary of active service to humanity and thank the WHO for supporting the entire health sector in Nigeria technically and financially these years".



Press conference to mark world Health Day and WHO 75 anniversary



Walk the Talk to mark 2023 World Health Day

Tying the noose on Cerebrospinal Meningitis- border communities in Jigawa State receive lifesaving vaccines



Saifullahi Bulama, happy to recover from meningitis

In mid-March, 16-year-old Saifullahi Bulama, residing in Garin Mu'azu, located in Sule Tankankar Local Government Area (LGA) in Jigawa State, Nigeria, was healthy and running around with his friends. Suddenly, he contracted cerebrospinal meningitis (CSM).

He recounts how he went to bed that night and could not stand up the next morning.

"My legs were not working. I had a temperature and my body was aching. I was rushed to the hospital, where I was admitted and treated for four days," he says.

He was lucky to survive the disease but has suffered from partial hearing loss as a result.

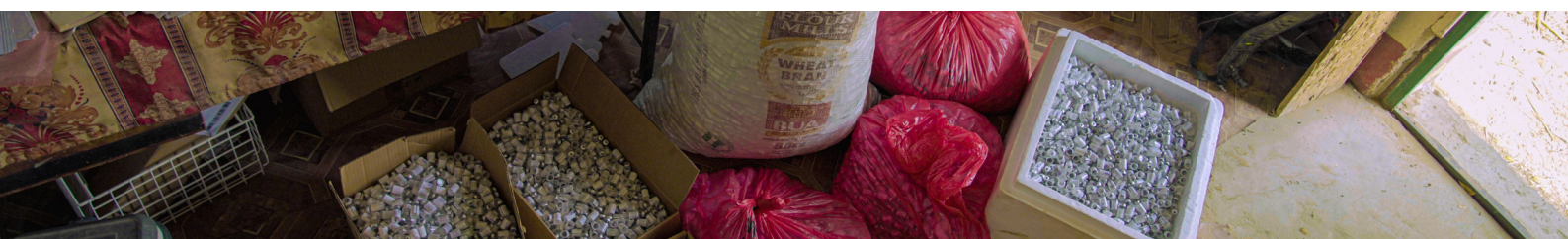
"I am grateful to be alive. Some people who got the disease in my village died," says Saifullahi.

Danladi Ali, a 39-year-old town crier from the same village who also contracted the disease experienced the same symptoms.

"I had a headache, my body ached and I could not turn my neck or lift my legs. Everything had become stiff. I thought I was dead. I cannot remember how I got to the hospital," he explains.

Danladi and Saifullahi received treatment at the General Hospital in Gumel, with support from the Jigawa State Government, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and WHO.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis is an inflammation of the thin layer of connective tissue that covers the brain and the spinal cord. It is highly infectious and can kill up to 50% of people infected if left untreated. Even when treated, 10% to 20% of people who survive will have after-effects such as deafness, loss of sight, and loss of limbs, among others.



Diphtheria outbreak response–Lagos State sensitizes communities on vaccine efficacy



Mrs Ade and her son Kazeem at LUTH recuperating from diphtheria.

Sometime in February, Kazeem Ade, age seven, was recuperating from diphtheria on a hospital bed in the children's ward at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH), in Lagos Southwest Nigeria.

His mother, Mrs Ade, can now smile after enduring a nerve-racking week at the hospital where her son including dozen other children have been receiving treatment for diphtheria – a vaccine-preventable disease that has killed 62 people (mostly children) in the country.

Mrs Ade says she had never heard about diphtheria until her son contracted the disease.

She is, however, glad that her son received all his childhood vaccines as the doctor attributed his survival to him completing his childhood immunization and the treatment received at the hospital.

“I ensured all my children completed their childhood immunization schedule though I did not believe in it. Nurses at the health centre in my area usually tell us to make sure our child completes the Routine Immunization (RI) schedule,” she explains.

Now with a better understanding of the importance of immunization, Mrs Ade reassures that she will encourage other mothers to make sure their children complete their RI schedule.

Diphtheria is an infection that is caused by a strain of bacteria known as *Corynebacterium diphtheriae* that releases tissue-killing toxins and spreads through exhaled droplets.

Nigeria began reporting the Diphtheria outbreak in May 2022. From then till March 2023, 389 confirmed cases have been reported in 6 states across the country.



FA training session for health workers in Lagos State

Osun State residents benefit from free medical outreach in commemoration of WHO's 75th anniversary

In accordance with the World Health Organization's (WHO) mandate of improving public health services in Nigeria, over 500 residents of Osogbo community, benefitted from a free medical outreach programme at the Orisunbare Market in Osogbo, the capital of Osun State located in South-West Nigeria.

The programme was organized with support from the Department of Community Medicine Osun State Teaching Hospital (UNIOSUN) Osogbo and the Osun State Ministry of Health.

The outreach was part of the events organized to commemorate WHO's 75th anniversary. Other highlights of celebration included a four kilometer Walk within the state capital, a radio call in programme at the Osun state University, and a commemoration visit to the traditional leader of Ile-Ife, Oba Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi, to enlighten the people about the importance of achieving health for all in Nigeria.

Participants of the walk included the government health agencies, UNICEF, health partners, the Nigerian community including children.

A beneficiary of the outreach and a trader at the market, Mr Fafioye Ahmed Abiodun, says he heard about the outreach from the market announcer who was announcing the outreach around the market.

He thanked WHO and the government for the initiative of bringing health care services closer to the people.

"I decided to take advantage of the opportunity to get screened. I understand it is important to go for routine checks to enable early detection of diseases, but most traders like me find it difficult to leave our stalls to go to the hospital.

Mr Fafioye was screened for hypertension, random blood glucose, Covid 19 screening and had his BMI measurement.



A staff checking blood pressure of a beneficiary at the WHO at 75 free medical outreach in Osogbo



A beneficiary of the WHO 75 free medical outreach in Osogbo, Osun state



WHO 75 anniversary commemoration Walk the Talk in Osogbo, Osun State

Social Media



Reach **84905**
New Followers **1725**



Impression **312337**
New Followers **1426**



Reach **7724**
New Followers **978**

AFRICAN VACCINATION WEEK 2023



World Health
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75
HEALTH
FOR ALL



➤ Immunization programmes contribute to health security by helping prevent, detect and rapidly respond to disease outbreaks

CALENDAR OF INTERNATIONAL HEALTH DAYS 2023 **APRIL**

- 2 World Autism Awareness Day
- 7 World Health Day
- 14 World Chagas Disease Day
- 20 -25 African Vaccines Week
- 20 -25 World Immunization Week
- 25 World Malaria Day
- 28 World Day for Safety and Health at Work

GALLERY



World Malaria Day and African Vaccination Week Press briefing

MULTIMEDIA



WHO Nigeria 75th Anniversary Commemoration



WALK THE TALK

We appreciate our partners



Birthdays/Social Events

We celebrate all our colleagues born in the month of April, this is to wish you a happy and blessed birthday.

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