

Monday, November 8, 2010 6:00 PM, EST

EOC SITUATION REPORT #12Cholera Outbreak in Haiti

Summary

- Tomas passed northwestern Haiti as a category 1 hurricane producing heaving rains across the country. The most heavily hit departments were the South and Grand'Anse. Most important needs in these areas are food, potable water, and hygiene kits.
- Field staff from the Government of Haiti's Department of Civil Protection (DPC) assisted some 10,000 of the most vulnerable people in the country and conducted evacuations to shelters before and during the passage of Hurricane Tomas.



Port-au-Prince community group speak about cholera preparedness in the capital

• As of November 6, the *Ministère de la santé publique et de la population* (MSPP) reported 8,138 hospitalized cases and 544 deaths. Five departments (Artibonite, Centre, Nord, Nord-Ouest, and Ouest) registered cases

Hurricane Tomas aftermath

- DPC reports 6 deaths and over 18,000 people evacuated their homes preemptively, including over 14,000 people who evacuated to hurricane shelters. Populations evacuated to safer shelters or temporary shelters are reportedly returning to their homes. All major roads are open.
- Initial assessments suggest the agriculture sector is the most strongly affected by Hurricane Tomas, with flooded fields resulting in loss of livestock and crops. An increase in the number of cholera cases remains a key concern of the humanitarian community, due to the mudslides and population movements in many areas of the country.

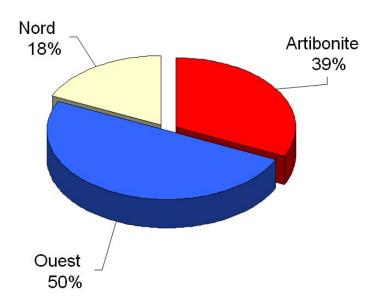
Health Cluster Response

- Patients evacuated from hospitals have returned to Les Cayes Hospital, in the South department, the Hinche Hospital, in Centre department, and the Rabotteau Hospital, in Artibonite.
- A joint multisectoral rapid assessment was conducted in areas affected by the hurricane.
 Damages to farms were reported, as well as to fishing equipment. In the departments
 assessed no health facilities have been damaged. Oral Rehydratation Salt sachets have
 been distributed to families. Medical supplies and equipment to treat cholera cases were
 prepositioned. Also, surveillance systems were established in the temporary shelters.
- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) teams have treated more than 6,400 patients suffering from acute diarrhea so far. MSF continues to treat patients and provide medical supplies to hospitals in St. Marc and Petite Riviere. MSF is also supplying IV solution, oral rehydration salts, IV sets, and hygiene materials to places such as Gros-Morne in an attempt to strengthen existing health clinics in rural areas.
- MSF continues to build CTC's to prepare for possible spread of the disease. 20-bed CTC was established in Leogane in addition to the existing hospital. In Port-au-Prince, MSF is working to set up 850 beds in the CTCs in preparation for a possible spread of the outbreak. Two MSPP hospitals in the capital continue to receive support from MSF.
- A team from PAHO/WHO has been deployed to Port-au-Prince to support the scaling-up
 of the PROMESS medical warehouse operation in distributing supplies to hospitals and
 organizations, in coordination with the DPC.
- The LSS/SUMA team has processed the shipments in the PROMESS warehouse and is coordinating with the Directorate General of Civil Protection the deployment of the system in two more locations in Port-au-Prince. Also, the LSS/SUMA team is in contact with WFP and the Logistics Cluster to install the system in the Port-au-Prince airport to better assess the humanitarian supplies received to date.
- PAHO/WHO has recently published <u>a new video</u> showing how PROMESS, NGOs and hospitals, continued working to distribute medical supplies, despite the technical and logistic challenges generated by Hurricane Tomas.
- PAHO/WHO's Deputy Director, Dr. Jon K. Andrus, will be hosting a press briefing on the cholera outbreak on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 2pm (EST). The event will take place at PAHO HQ (room B), 525 23rd St. NW, Washington, DC. It will also be broadcasted live: http://www.paho.org/webcast.

Cholera situation map

PAHO/WHO is maintaining an interactive map with epidemiological information. Please follow this link to launch the map.

Deliveries from PROMESS by Department



Information processed with LSS/SUMA by PAHO/WHO (21 October – 6 November, 2010)

Cholera Key Facts

- Cholera is an acute diarrheal infection caused by exposition, ingestion of food or water contaminated with the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae 0:1*. Provision of safe water and sanitation is critical in reducing the impact of cholera and other waterborne diseases.
- Up to 80% of cases can be successfully treated with oral rehydration salts.
- There are an estimated 3–5 million cholera cases and 100,000–120,000 deaths due to cholera every year around the world.

Guidelines and Recommendations

Title	Link
Acute diarrheal diseases in complex emergencies: critical steps	English French Spanish
Be a Better Donor: Practical Recommendations for Humanitarian Aid	English Spanish
Cholera fact sheet	English French Spanish
Cholera outbreak: assessing the outbreak response and improving preparedness	English French Portuguese
Diagnóstico de Vibrio cholerae y Salmonella	<u>Spanish</u>
First steps for managing an outbreak of acute diarrhea	English French Spanish
Management of Dead Bodies after Disasters: A Field Manual for First Responders	English French Spanish
Manual de Procedimientos Aislamiento, identificación y caracterización de <i>Vibrio cholerae</i>	<u>Spanish</u>
Five keys to safer food	Arabic Chinese Creole English French Russian Spanish
PAHO/WHO Position on Cholera Vaccination in Haiti	English French Spanish
Procedures for identification of <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> in the microbiology laboratory	<u>Spanish</u>
Recommendations for cholera clinical management	English Spanish
The Global Task Force on Cholera Control	<u>English</u>

Other Resources

- Ministère de la santé publique et de la population (MSPP).
- PAHO/WHO Haiti, PAHO/WHO disasters, Haiti emergency blog, and PAHO/WHO's main website.
- Global Task Force on Cholera Control and WHO's main website.
- OCHA's <u>Crisis Information Centre</u> on Haiti.
- ReliefWeb Haiti Cholera Outbreak page.
- Mission des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation en Haiti (MINUSTAH).
- SUMA Logistics Support System.
- CDC Haiti cholera outbreak resource center.
- <u>Post-Earthquake Health Resources for Haiti</u> by National Institutes of Health (NIH)'s Disaster Information Management Research Center (updated for the cholera outbreak).
- For constant updates on the cholera outbreak in Haiti and other international public health information please check the PAHO/WHO EOC channel in Twitter.

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