

Wednesday, November 24, 2010
6:00 PM, EST

EOC SITUATION REPORT #15 Cholera Outbreak in Haiti and Dominican Republic

Summary

- Today the Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP) reported a total of 66,593 hospital visits, 27,933 hospitalizations, and 1,523 deaths due to cholera at the national level, as of November 22. Cholera cases are now reported in all the ten departments of Haiti.
- With respect to the number of deaths at the national level, 67% occurred at the health services level and 33% at the community level. The national in-hospital case fatality rate at the national level is 2.3%.
- As of today, the Minister of Health of Dominican Republic reported 4 confirmed cases, including 1 hospitalization. One laboratory-confirmed case is an imported case.



Haiti Health Cluster Response

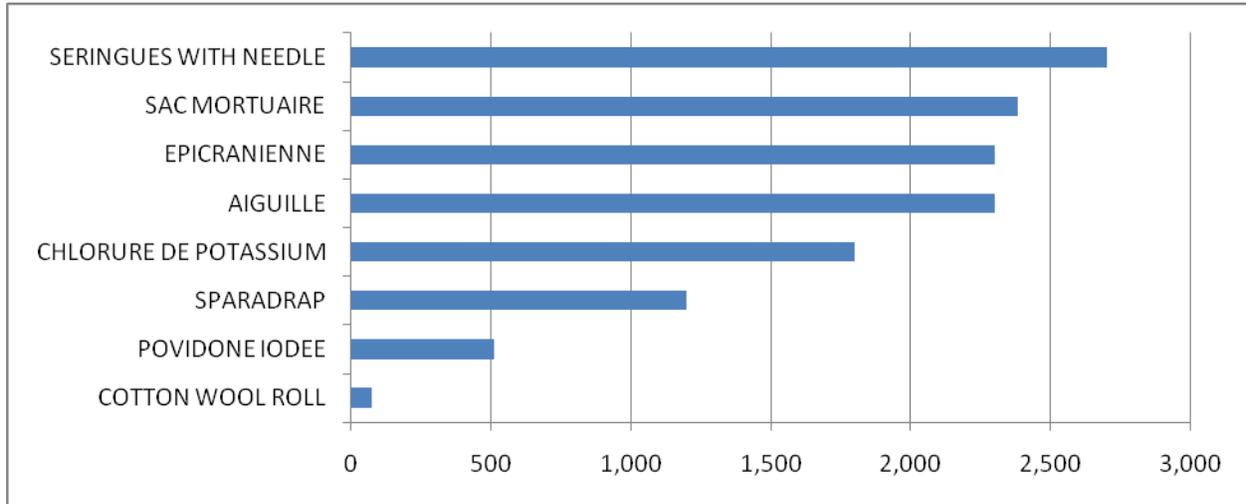
- On Tuesday, November 23, the Health Cluster in Haiti published the fourth edition of their bulletin, which includes a situation overview, epidemiological information, response activities by department, and a summary of supplies and logistics information. The document is available in the paho.org/disasters website in French, English, and Spanish.
- With over 70 health partners responding to cholera, at least 24 NGOs are now providing cholera response health services in Cholera Treatment Centers (CTCs) and Cholera Treatment Units (CTUs). Throughout Haiti, 36 CTCs are operational with a total bed capacity of roughly 2,830. Four more CTCs with 800 beds are planned. Over 60 CTUs have been established and hundreds more are planned.
- The Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) is a technical collaboration of existing institutions and networks that pool human and technical resources for the rapid identification, confirmation and response to outbreaks of international importance. Given the magnitude of the cholera outbreak in Haiti the GOARN mechanism has been

activated in order to provide support to the national authorities of Haiti. These experts work alongside specialists from PAHO/WHO and other international and local organizations, in close cooperation with the MSPP, not only in Port-au-Prince but at the departmental level as well, evaluating risks and assessing needs directly in the affected areas.

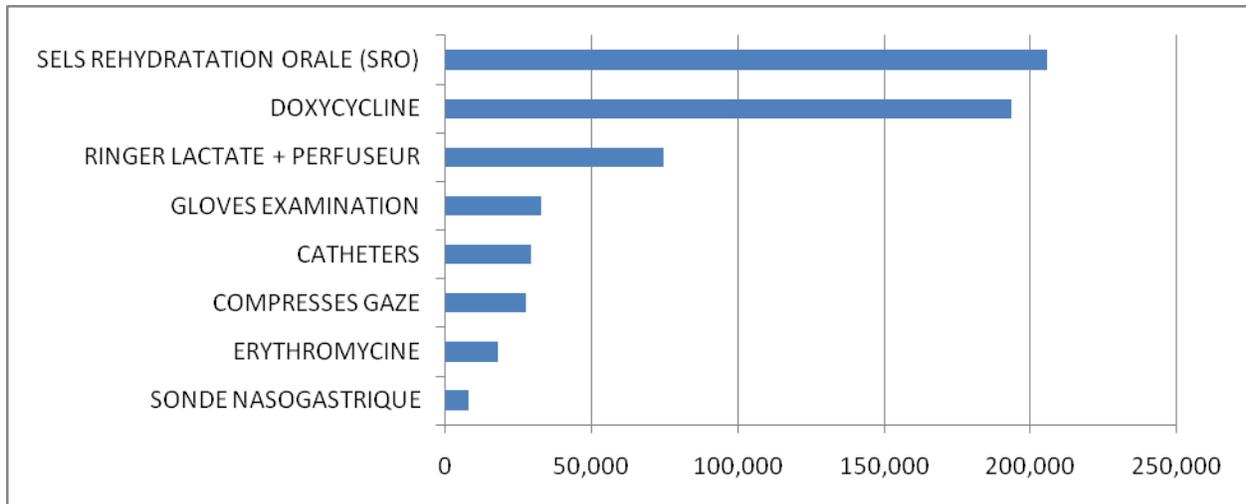
- The mission of the GOARN experts is to strengthen the alert and response system established by the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) with the active participation of the Health and WASH Clusters and to provide bed side hands on technical assistance for Case Management and Infection Control. The International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research of Bangladesh (ICDDR-B), the Ministry of Health of Spain, and the European Centre for Diseases Control (ECDC) with fellows from the European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training (EPIET) are among the partners that have sent experts to Haiti. France's Institut de Veille Sanitaire (InVS) is deploying staff from its Caribbean office in the forthcoming days.
- The Spanish Agency for International Cooperation Development (AECID) will send 40 tons of medical rehydration supplies. To date, AECID has completed four shipments: three by air (with 34 tons of medicine and equipment for water and sanitation) and one by a sea cargo (with 17 tons of rehydration salts). This material will be used to support the work of several NGOs (MSF, Red Cross/Spain, and Médecins du Monde) and PROMESS.
- In addition to 11.5 million water purification tablets, 7.8 tons of HTH, 43,810 units of soap, and 2,200 kg of oral rehydration salts previously shipped by AECID, the agency provided 88 million water purification tablets to DINEPA.
- The World Bank is preparing a US\$10 million Cholera Emergency Grant, as part of the US\$479 million reconstruction support. This grant will bolster the surveillance and monitoring capacity of the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) and the Haitian National Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation (DINEPA). The initiative is aligned with the Cholera Inter-Sector Response Strategic Plan for Haiti, under the leadership of MSPP and DINEPA. The grant will also finance the work of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to improve access to clean water, provide basic health services for affected populations and vulnerable groups, as well as safe sanitation and waste management in high risk areas.
- WASH cluster partners in Port-au-Prince continue hygiene promotion activities in camps and neighborhoods in the capital and throughout the country. A new phone service, accessible when dialing *300, has been established by MSPP for information and for management of corpses.
- During a press conference held on Tuesday, November 23, PAHO's Deputy Director, Dr. Jon Andrus, urged countries to ramp up readiness for cholera to protect their populations before the epidemic spreads further. Among the recommended measures were: (1) Stepped-up surveillance to ensure that any potential cholera cases are detected rapidly; (2) Strengthening preparedness and response plans to ensure that countries' health systems are able to deal with any sudden surges or emergence of cholera; (3) Improving water and sanitation services to prevent the spread; and (4) Increased public education

about the importance of hand washing, proper disposal of feces, and prompt treatment with oral rehydration salts or, for severe cases, specialized medical care.

Deliveries of cholera supplies by the PROMESS Warehouse



Units of medical supplies delivered by PROMESS during the last week (I)



Units of medical supplies delivered by PROMESS during the last week (and II)

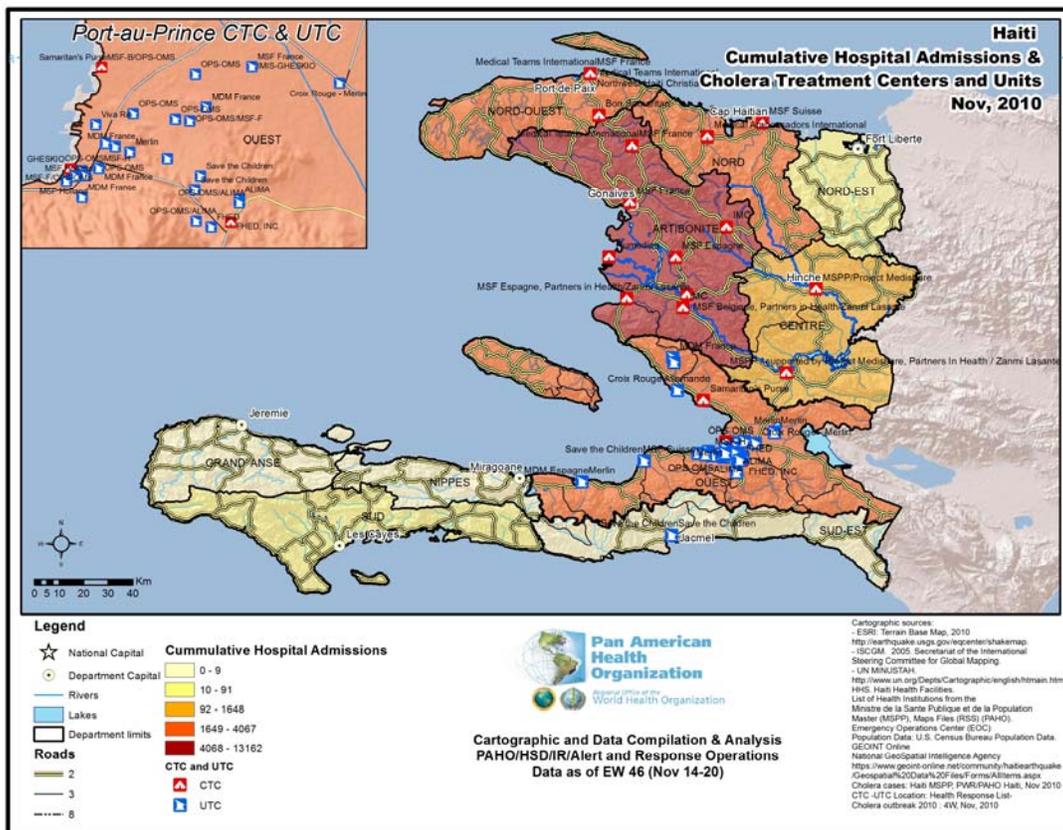
- From November 19 to 22, PAHO/WHO, in coordination with the MSPP and WFP, distributed 87 tons of medicines and supplies, covering one third of patient caseload over the coming months. This operation, which included all nine departments outside the West, replenished stocks in areas already affected and prepositioned supplies. This week medical supplies are being distributed to 23 hospitals and health centers in metropolitan Port-au-Prince.

- NGOs are encouraged to use SUMA to monitor their inventories and consolidate their supplies information. Implementing the SUMA system in an emergency facilitates the preparation of reports. A special list of key items which are important for dealing with the cholera outbreak has been drawn up. Staff can normally be trained in a day, and the software is provided free-of-charge to all organizations wishing to use it. For more information please contact Mr. Jeronimo Venegas, SUMA team leader in Haiti (venegasj@paho.org, + (509) 3419-9509) or Mr. Antonio Zugaldia, PAHO/WHO Emergency Operations Center (zugaldia@paho.org, +1 (202) 974-3399).

Cholera situation map

- PAHO/WHO produces an Interactive Atlas with epidemiological information of Haiti and Dominican Republic, including the location of CTCs, CTUs, health facilities, and other relevant datasets. Please follow [this link](#) to launch the map.
- To access the daily total number of cases and deaths, please click on *Situation Updates*.

Cholera Treatment Centers and Units in Haiti



Location of CTCs, CTUs in Haiti, and in the Port-au-Prince area

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.
- **More information:** cholera fact sheet – [English](#), [French](#), and [Spanish](#).

Guidelines and Recommendations

<i>Case Management and Vaccination</i>	
Infection control precautions in cholera outbreaks	English Spanish
Recommendations for cholera clinical management	English Spanish
PAHO/WHO position on cholera vaccination in Haiti	English French Spanish
<i>Laboratory</i>	
Manual of procedures for isolation, identification and characterization of <i>Vibrio cholerae</i>	Spanish
Procedures for identification of <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> in the microbiology laboratory	Spanish
Search procedures for <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> in environmental samples	Spanish
Diagnóstico de <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> y <i>Salmonella</i>	Spanish
<i>Outbreak Control in Complex Emergencies</i>	
Be a better donor: practical recommendations for humanitarian aid	English Spanish
Management of dead bodies after disasters	English French Spanish
Cholera in Disasters Situations	English Spanish
Acute diarrhoeal diseases in complex emergencies: critical steps	English French Spanish
Cholera outbreak: assessing the outbreak response and improving preparedness	English French Portuguese
First steps for managing an outbreak of acute diarrhoea	English French Spanish
<i>Prevention</i>	
Poster 1: Protect yourself not to get cholera	Creole
Poster 2: What to do when someone has diarrhea and vomiting	Creole
Preventions messages to protect us against cholera	Creole
5 key ways project: adapting the WHO manual on food safety for use in Guatemalan elementary schools	English

Five keys to safer food	English Spanish
Prevention of foodborne disease: the five keys to safer food	English French Spanish

Other Resources

- [Ministère de la santé publique et de la population](#) (MSPP).
- [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 [Crisis Information Centre](#) on Haiti.
- [ReliefWeb Haiti Cholera Outbreak](#) page.
- [Haiti Resource Finder](#), and [Health Facilities Master List](#).
- [Mission des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation en Haiti](#) (MINUSTAH).
- [SUMA Logistics Support System](#).
- [CDC Haiti cholera outbreak resource center](#).
- [Post-Earthquake Health Resources for Haiti](#) by 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.

Please follow [Hthis link](#) to subscribe/unsubscribe to the distribution list of this situation report. The PAHO/WHO Emergency Operations Center will issue situation reports as the situation requires.

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