



South Sudan: Cholera Outbreak Situation Report

Situation report: No. 001

Date of onset of outbreak: 22 February 2023

Reporting date: 07 March 2023

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



Cholera response | Cumulative figures from 22 February to 4 March 2023

179

Cases

1

Death

0.6%

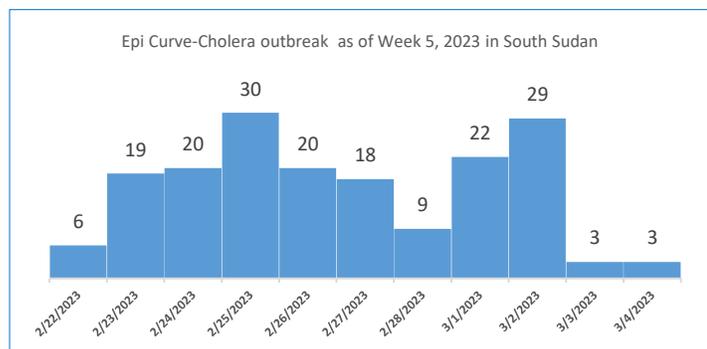
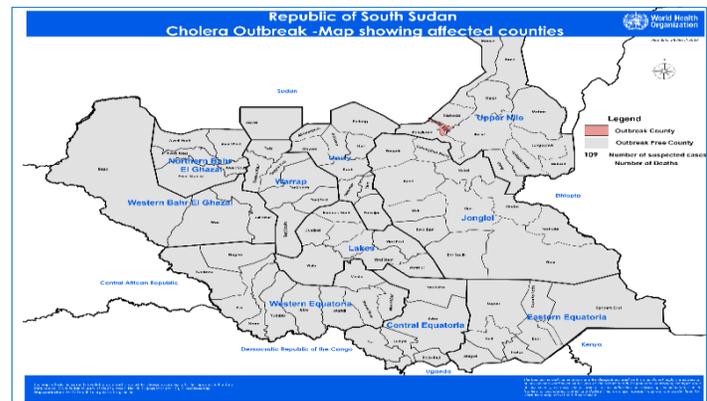
CFR

Not graded

Grade

Key Weekly Highlights as of 07 March 2023

- In South Sudan, Malakal County in Upper Nile state has reported 179 suspected cases of cholera with 2 laboratory confirmed cases.
- Case fatality ratio (CFR) is 0.6% (1/179).
- On the 1 March 2023, the PHEOC received information of suspected cholera cases with two (2) RDT positive.
- Cumulatively, since 22 February 2023, a total of 179 cholera cases including one death have been reported from Malakal, Malakal, Upper Nile State. Most (106/59%) of the cases are males while 73 accounting for 41% are females.
- On 2nd March 2023, nine (9) samples were received at the NPHL, and two samples tested positive for vibrio cholerae by Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) on 6th March 2023.
- One cholera death was reported in the POC.
- A team of experts from the MoH and WHO has been deployed on 4th March 2023 to Malakal to conduct an in-depth outbreak investigation and support response activities.



Key Interventions

Coordination

- The National Incident management system was activated to provide technical and operational guidance on the evolving situation in Malakal County.
- An ad-hoc coordination meeting was conducted on 1st March 2023 to activate the National Cholera Taskforce to review progress and to take public health decisions.
- A multisectoral National RRT was then deployed for further epidemiological investigation and to support response activities in Malakal County.
- The state task force has been activated and meetings are ongoing.

Surveillance

- Reporting tools such as case definition and reporting tools were distributed to the health facilities and community level to strengthen surveillance.
- Implementing partners are conducting screening/triage in health facilities in Malakal county.
- The State RRT team in Malakal are continuing to conduct active case search at the community level.
- The national RRT was deployed on 4th March to support the in-depth investigation and respond to the cholera outbreak.

Case management

- MSF had established cholera treatment facilities in both POC and Malakal hospital (PoC- 10 beds and Malakal hospital-12 beds).
- WHO provided 1 complete cholera investigation kit.
- WHO has deployed 7 cholera treatment kits to Malakal.
- IMC has started conducting training for Clinical staff and cleaners on cholera case management and chlorine preparation.
- MSF increased the HR (Nurses and COs) for cholera response.

Infection Prevention & Control/WASH

- Ongoing assessment to identify risks for transmission in the community, including access to safe water and sanitation, sanitary survey, environmental hygiene, and key risk behaviors.
- Ongoing prompt WASH measures including water quality testing to ensure adequate chlorination at the point of use.



Risk Communication & Community Engagement (RCCE)

- The RCCE sub-cluster in Malakal has been tasked to accelerate health education and community awareness.
- Advance Door to door community engagement to promote hygiene is ongoing
- Ongoing awareness at the marketplace, crowded areas as well as at the POC and Malakal town.
- Ongoing radio talk shows and jingles spots.
- Ongoing school engagement in the hot spots locations.

Laboratory

- On 2nd March 2023, 9 Stool samples were received at the NPHL.
- On 6th March 2023, Two (2) samples tested positive for Vibrio cholerae by PCR, 1 sample tested positive for Salmonella ssp and 1 sample tested positive for Shigella ssp and the remaining five (5) samples tested negative.
- The NPHL has the capacity to confirm cholera by culture and PCR.
- WHO has shipped three (3) cholera investigation kits to Malakal to support cholera investigation in health facilities.

Oral Cholera Vaccination (OCV)

- The first round OCV campaign was conducted in Malakal in September 2022 with a coverage of 92% in the POC and 52.8% in Malakal town.
- WHO has planned an OCV campaign to be conducted in Malakal targeting 53,324 individuals 1yr and above in March 2023.
- 58,729 doses of OCV are available in Malakal cold chain.

Logistics and supplies

- WHO has shipped 7 cholera treatment kits and 3 cholera investigations to Malakal
- 10 beds and 1 tent provided by WHO will be shipped this week to Malakal

Challenges

- Long turnaround time for releasing laboratory results
- 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.



Way forward

- Conduct an in-depth outbreak investigation & risk assessment in Malakal town and POC to determine the source of the outbreak
- Establish more treatment centers and ORPs to provide case management
- Collect more samples for testing
- Continue multisectoral coordination & resource mobilization at both national and state levels
- Accelerate WASH and RCCE interventions
- Map out the hygiene promoters and Boma health workers
- Advocate for the use of the 6666-toll-free line for more information and reporting of cholera cases
- Conduct outbreak grading to establish the need for additional resources required for the response

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