



BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

- During the first weeks of 2011, over 120 weapon-related casualties were reported in the three main hospitals of Mogadishu.
- Two trainings on acute watery diarrhea (AWD) case management and pandemic influenza case detection for health workers are currently ongoing in Merka, Lower Shabelle region.

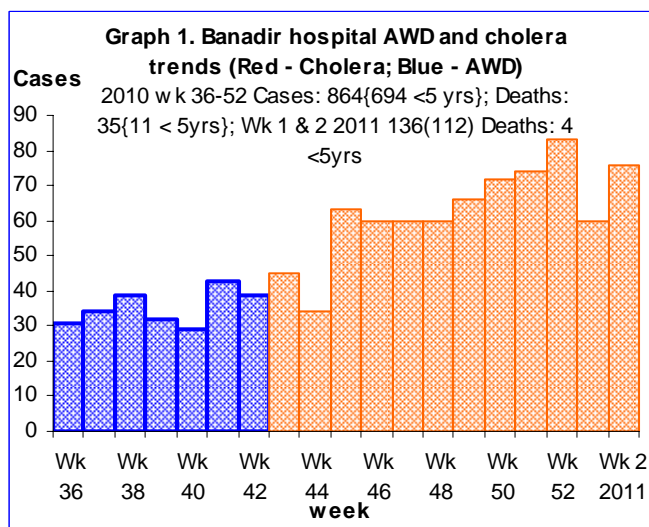
Update on major public health concern:

- Cholera/Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)

Since week 1¹, 76 AWD/cholera cases (64 under 5 years) with no related deaths have been reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** alone.

In week 2², a total of 37 AWD cases were reported from 39 health facilities in **Lower Shabelle** region including 70% (26) children under 5 years. Merka district alone accounted for 59% of all reported cases. Cases reported from Agooye corridor in week 1 were investigated and found not to be AWD.

WHO and partners are closely monitoring trends of communicable diseases especially AWD in light of the current drought that is having a serious impact on people's health.



¹Week 1: 3-9 January 2011

²Week 2: 10-16 January 2011

Conflict and displacement

- From **3 - 16 January 2011**, **126 weapons-related casualties**, including four children under five years of age with one related deaths have been reported from **two major hospitals in Mogadishu**. The exact number of deaths on site are unknown.
- In week 1, a **third hospital** reported **39 weapons-related injuries**.



- Since 1 December 2010³, 9 000 displacements have occurred from Mogadishu with 5 600 leaving the city while another 3 400 have been displaced within relatively safer districts of Mogadishu.



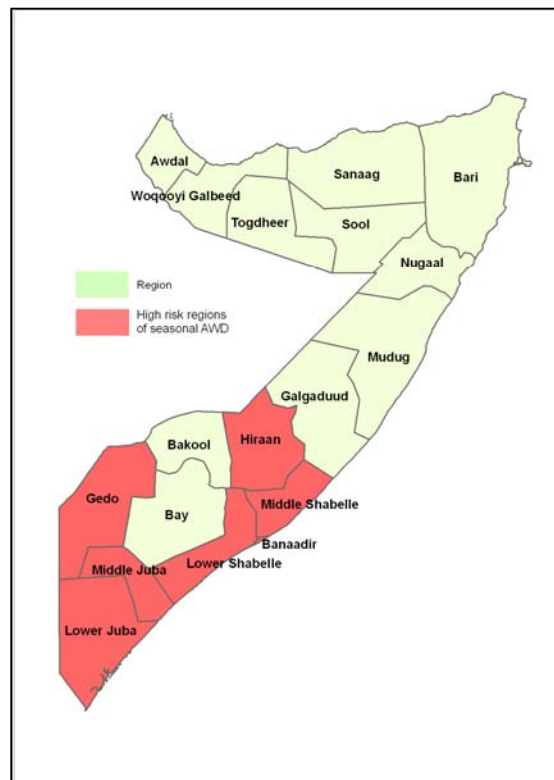
Due to the ongoing conflict, thousands are leaving Mogadishu in the hope to find a safer shelter within the city

³IASC Somalia Population Movement Tracking system

Health Events in Somalia

Epidemiological surveillance during week 2

- 13 health facilities in **Lower and Middle Juba regions** reported a total of 760 consultations, including 72% (550) children under 5 years. 190 consultations for influenza-like illness (ILI), 88% (167) children under 5 years. Suspected malaria cases accounted for 247 consultations, including 64% (159) children under 5 years. Acute watery diarrhea accounted for 259 consultations, including 75% (193) children under 5 years. Afmadow and Kismayo districts accounted for 57% of all the consultations – this signifies a 61% increase mainly for AWD.
- 39 health facilities in **Lower Shabelle region** reported 4277 consultations including 40% (1734) children under 5 years. Severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) accounted for 467 consultations of which 60% (281) were children under 5 years. Malaria accounted for 151 cases including 21% (32) children under 5 years and no related death. 70% (106) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. Acute watery diarrhea accounted for 37 consultations including 70% (26) children under 5 years. During the same period, 46 suspected measles cases were reported from the region. 31 suspected whooping cough cases were also reported in the same week.
- In the Merka hospital cholera treatment centre in **Lower Shabelle region**, seven AWD admissions including four children under 5, were reported with one related deaths. This compares to week 1.
- Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** reported 76 cases of AWD including 84% (64) children under 5 years. This compares to week 1 (see graph on page 1). WHO and partners continue to monitor AWD trends in the region.
- The Habeeb hospital cholera treatment centre in Heliwa district, **Mogadishu** reported nine AWD admissions (7 children under five years) and one related death above five years.



WHO's response

WHO and partners continue to monitor health events and respond to the ongoing situation in South Central Somalia, through the following activities:

- WHO, in collaboration with health partner COSV, is currently conducting an AWD case management training for health workers in **Lower Shabelle region**. A second training on case detection for pandemic influenza will also take place in the region.

In Focus

Mogadishu children risk their lives every day

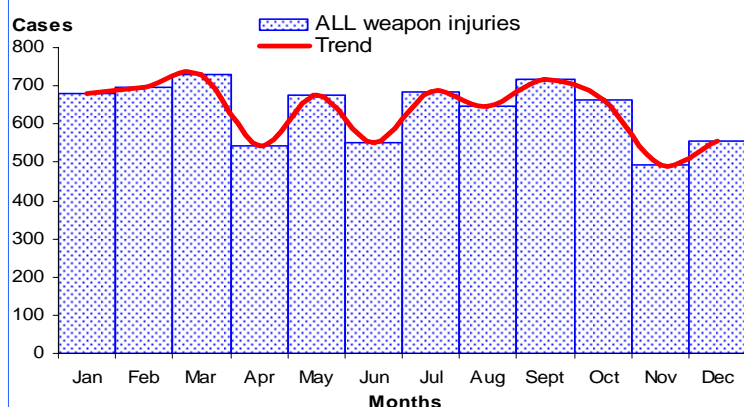
Children of Mogadishu are suffering from the recent increased violence in the city, accounting for almost one-fifth of all weapons-related casualties in 2010 (see graph 5). Even just playing soccer on the streets can be deadly. The high number of young casualties, coupled with a limited number of skilled surgeons and continuing demands for routine surgical care, requires an urgent upgrade of health facilities in the capital Mogadishu.



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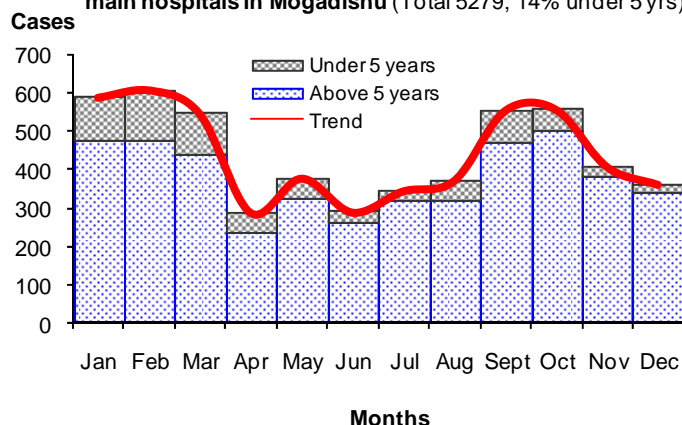
Playing on Mogadishu's streets is a risky adventure. This is the nature of war-torn Mogadishu, Somalia's capital, considered one of the world's most dangerous cities.

Graph 4. Weapons related injuries reported from three main hospitals in Mogadishu 2010 (Total 7634)



Two decades of civil war has devastated Somalia, hampering its health services and increased health risks. During 2010, more than 7500 people have been wounded by weapon-related injuries (see graph 4, reported from the three main hospitals in Mogadishu) and 100 more killed in Mogadishu alone. Across Somalia, 2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, including 1.46 million of whom who have been displaced by conflict and live in temporary settlements.

Graph 5: Weapons related injuries reported from two main hospitals in Mogadishu (Total 5279; 14% under 5 yrs)



The World Health Organization supports two hospitals and seven health facilities in Mogadishu to re-equip their operating theatres, provide essential medicines and supplies, train staff and install the information technology needed to manage operations.