



Emergency Humanitarian Action

Weekly Highlights 4-10 June 2011

BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

- During the first week of June, **405 casualties from weapon-related wounds** were treated in the three hospitals in **Mogadishu**. Five related deaths were reported. Compared with last week, there has been a decrease in the number of reported casualties by around 60%.
- WHO and partners continue to monitor AWD trends and conduct preventive activities in Banadir region. WHO is providing a diarrhoeal disease (DD) kit to Banadir Hospital to facilitate case management of about 100 severe cases.

Update on major public health concerns:

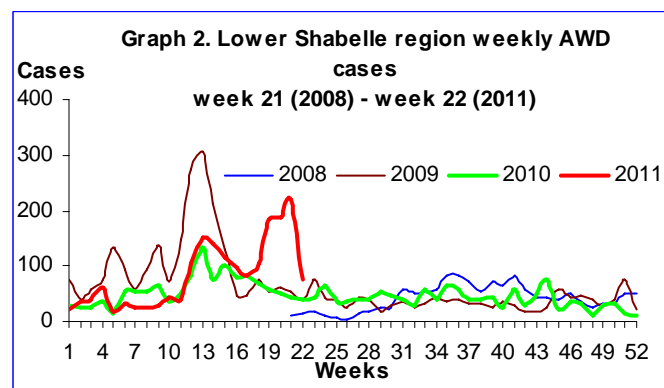
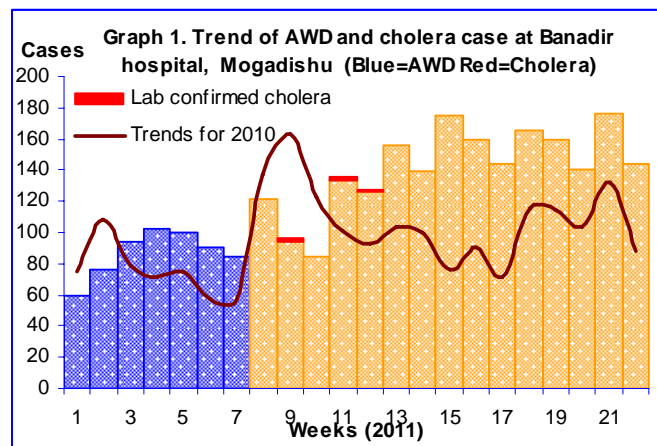
Trends of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera

The cholera transmission season is ongoing. Some areas in most regions of Somalia have received sporadic rainfall. Due to water shortages, WHO observes that there is a likelihood of a risk in transmission of waterborne diseases as communities tend to utilize water from contaminated sources. Investigation of a number of rumors have confirmed the existence of AWD cases though not severe. Confirmed cholera outbreak is ongoing in **Mogadishu** (Banadir region), the **Afgooye Corridor** and **Baidoa** (Bay region) and **Xarardheere** (Mudug region).

Since week 1¹, and following a confirmed cholera outbreak in Mogadishu, 2723 AWD/cholera cases including 2108 (78%) cases under the age of five with 96 related deaths have been reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** (see graph 1). Children under the age of two bear the greatest burden of AWD accounting for 58% of all reported cases. Based on data collected, women and girls account for 46% of all AWD reported cases at the hospital.

The number of AWD cases reported in **Lower Shabelle region** tends to decrease in week 22² (see graph 2).

WHO and partners are closely monitoring trends of communicable diseases, especially AWD in light of the end of the dry season. Rains have been observed in some parts of the country, alerting for risks of communicable disease outbreaks, including AWD.



¹Week 1: 3-9 January 2011

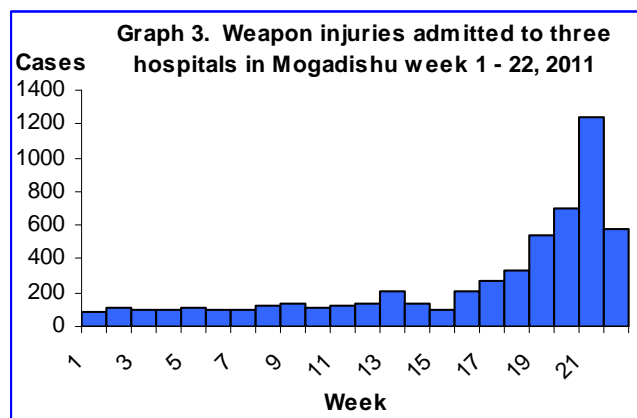
²Week 22: 30 May - 5 June 2011

Conflict

During the **first week of June 2011**, **405 casualties** from weapon-related wounds were treated in the three hospitals in Mogadishu. Five related deaths were reported.

From **3 January - 31 May 2011**, **5259 weapons-related injuries**, including 1453 children under the age of five, with 52 related deaths, four of whom are under the age of five have been reported from these hospitals. The exact number of deaths on site are unknown (see graph 3).

Of the weapons-related injuries reported in children under the age of five since January, **over 80% were reported in the month of May alone**.



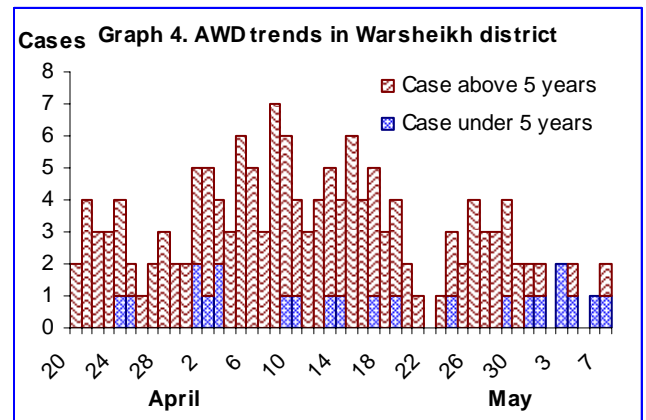
A severely wounded child admitted at Banadir Hospital recovering following an operation

Health Events in Somalia

Epidemiological surveillance during week 22

- In **Lower and Middle Juba regions**, 16 health facilities reported 1806 consultations including 785 (43%) children under the age of five. Women and girls accounted for 1136 (63%) of all consultations. Influenza like illness (ILI) accounted for 305 consultations of which 217 (71%) were children under the age of five. Malaria accounted for 1120 cases including 346 (31%) children below the age of five. AWD accounted for 315 cases including 220 (70%) children less than five years. Jilib and Kismayo accounting for 42% of all the consultations.
- In **Lower Shabelle region**, 51 health facilities reported a total of 7291 consultations of whom 3636 (50%) are children younger than five with three deaths (one under the age of five). Women and girls accounted for 3892 (53%) of the consultations. About 1234 consultations were reported for influenza-like illness (ILI), 658 (53%) children under five years. Severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) accounted for 304 consultations of which 220 (72%) were children under five years – a 28% increase compared to week 21. Malaria accounted for 254 cases including 113 (44%) children under five years. Around 137 (54%) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. AWD accounted for 76 consultations including 41 (54%) children under five years - a 65% decrease in cases compared to week 21. During the same period, 156 suspected measles cases were reported from the region. Around 73 suspected whooping cough cases were reported. The lack of access to conduct vaccination activities in the region continues to impact negatively on the health of children.

- The Warsheikh MCH in **Middle Shabelle region** reported 10 AWD cases including five children under the age of five (see graph 4 on AWD trend). This is a 50% reduction in reported cases compared to week 21. WHO is awaiting permission from the local authorities to access Warsheikh district.
- Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** reported 144 cases of AWD including 101 (70%) children under 5 years, with six related deaths under the age of five - a 18% decrease as compared to week 21. Of these cases 44% were women and girls. WHO and partners continue to monitor the trends and undertaking AWD preventive activities.



- The Habeeb hospital cholera treatment centre in Heliwa district, **Mogadishu** reported 23 AWD admissions of which nine are under the age of five. Of these cases, 13 (48%) were women and girls.
- The SOS Hospital in Huruwaa district, **Mogadishu**, reported 89 AWD cases including 88 (99%) children under the age of five. Of these cases 51% are women and girls. Due to recent increase in fighting and onset of rains experienced in Mogadishu and other parts of Somalia it is observed that AWD cases reported would increase.

WHO's response

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

- WHO and partners continue to monitor AWD trends and conduct preventive activities in Banadir region. WHO is providing a diarrhoeal disease (DD) kit to Banadir Hospital to facilitate case management.
- WHO investigation team collected samples from Tiye glow district in Bakool region following rumors of an unknown disease reported in previous weeks. Initial reports indicate similar symptoms presented in Huddur district with cases exhibiting mild fever, swelling of lower limbs and joints, difficulty in walking and genital sores.
- WHO collected samples of serum from patients in Berbera Port town with symptoms of an unknown disease. The samples tested negative for dengue fever, chikungunya and other arboviruses. Results of additional samples and full results for the initial batch of samples are still pending.