

SOMALIA HEALTH CLUSTER BULLETIN #59

The Somalia Health Cluster Bulletin provides an overview of the health activities conducted by the health cluster partners operating in Somalia. The Health Cluster Bulletin is issued on a monthly basis; it is a tool to supplement and support the overall information-sharing. It is available on the Health Cluster Website at www.healthsomalia.org/documents Contributions can be sent to cluster@nbo.emro.who.int.

May 2012

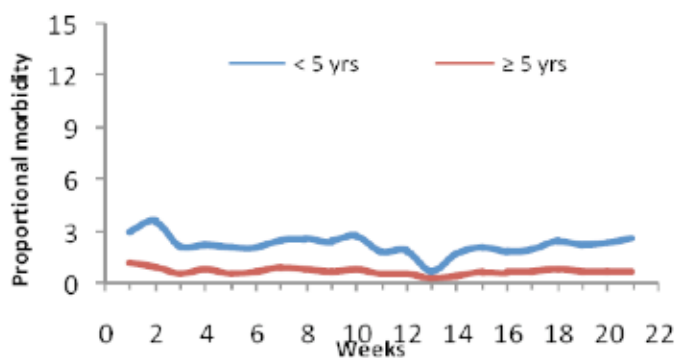
SITUATION OVERVIEW

- A fourth cholera treatment center (CTC) was opened in Xamarjajab district acting as a referral center for suspected cholera cases to decongest the caseload in Banadir hospital.
- A total of 7 out of 37 stool samples collected from patients in Mogadishu tested positive for cholera. Renewed displacements due to current armed conflict affecting the Afgooye corridor and parts of Mogadishu may accelerate an increase of suspected cholera cases.
- The Ministry of Health, WHO and UNICEF concluded the two phases of Child Health Days in Banadir and Gedo regions reaching more than 342 000 children under the age of five and more than 352 000 women between the ages of 15 and 49.

NEEDS:

- During the month of May, the epidemiological surveillance report indicated that there were a total of 5279 cases of suspected cholera cases for the whole of Somalia, including 4065 children¹.
- The leading causes of morbidity across the zones for May were suspected cholera and confirmed malaria. Suspected cholera accounted for most consultations in Central Somalia (6.8%) and Puntland (5.52%) respectively, while confirmed malaria was the lead cause of morbidity in Southern Somalia (3.92%). Suspected measles remained the leading cause of morbidity in Somaliland averaged (1.13%) during the month. A steady increase in the number of consultations continued to be observed in almost all areas of Somalia experiencing the current rains.
- WHO investigated the increased number of confirmed malaria cases reported over the past weeks, in particular from the six regions of Banadir, Lower Shabelle, Bay, Bakool and Lower Jubba.

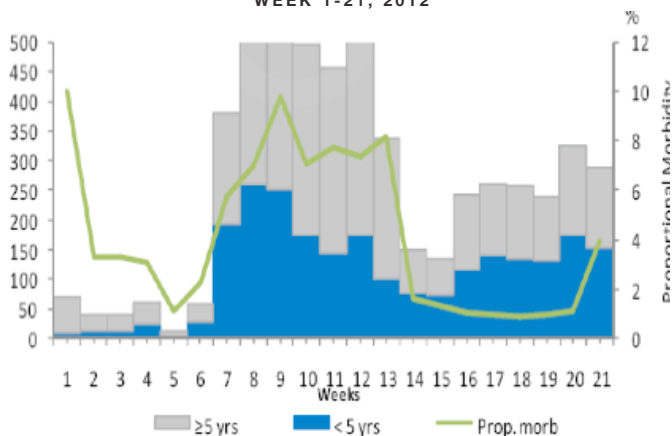
TRENDS OF PROPORTIONAL MORBIDITY FOR SUSPECTED CHOLERA IN CENTRAL SOMALIA WEEK 1-21, 2012



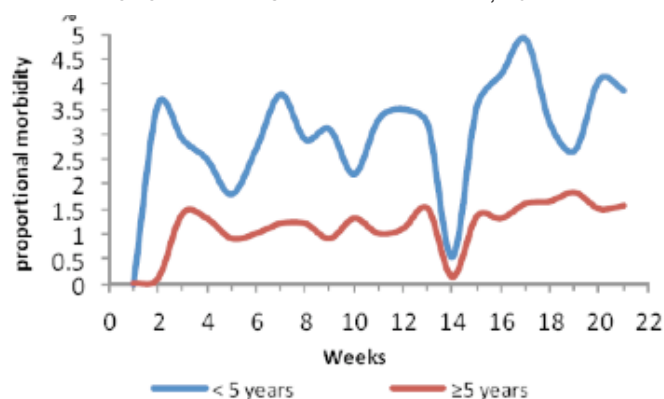
¹ Child under the age of five years



TRENDS OF CASES BY AGE GROUP AND PROPORTIONAL MORBIDITY FOR CONFIRMED MALARIA IN SOUTHERN SOMALIA WEEK 1-21, 2012



TRENDS OF PROPORTIONAL MORBIDITY FOR SUSPECTED CHOLERA IN PUNTLAND WEEK 1-21, 2012

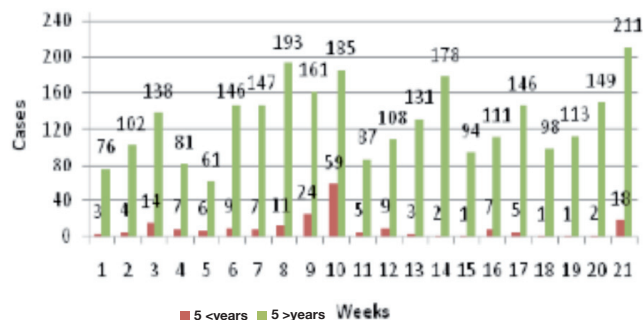


- In May, a total of 1138 cases of suspected shigellosis were reported in South and Central Somalia, which can be associated with a high case-fatality rate especially among children.
- A total of 37 stool samples were collected from Banadir hospital, and 7 of those tested positive for Vibrio cholera serotype 'Inaba'. Partners were requested to step up preventive activities for cholera and other diarrheal diseases.
- During the month of May 2012, 670 casualties from weapon-related injuries were treated in four hospitals in Mogadishu with a total of 19 deaths above the age of five years.
- On Thursday 31 May, preliminary updates were received regarding heavy fighting near Afmadow town. Over the past 48 hours an unknown number of civilians have been displaced towards Godaya, Magar and Qabaa villages (Afmadow district). So far, reports were received that a total of four civilians were injured before dawn after mortar shells have hit their nomadic settlements near Afmadow town. However, tension seem to be very high, and WHO and partners expect that wounded civilians might seek treatment in the coming hours in the various health facilities of Lower Jubba.
- In the Afgooye Corridor, over 6,200 displacements were observed with the majority coming from Ceelesha and moving to Mogadishu and other districts in the Lower Shabelle region.



Patients from Afgooye with weapon-related injuries brought for treatment to Banadir Hospital, Mogadishu. Ileti

WEAPON INJURIES REPORTED IN MOGADISHU WEEK 1-21, 2012



RESPONSE:

- During May, over 400,000 people had access to primary and secondary health care services, while over 240,000 were vaccinated during the Child Health Days and National Immunization Days in Gedo region, South Central Somalia, and Puntland.
- The Hodan cholera treatment centre (CTC) managed by American Refugee Committee (ARC) which is also a referral CTC, located in Mogadishu reported 311 admissions including 88% (69) children, implying a lack of specificity to the case definition. There were no deaths.
- Center for Peace and Democracy (CPD) facilitated three days emergency care and triage training at Banadir University for 12 health staff.
- Watchful Association for Relief and Development (WARD) carried out a rapid needs assessment on the health needs in the IDP camp-Dankulan (Hodan district) on 19-24 May, following the new displacements of Afgoye corridor.



A young girl receiving treatment at the Hondal CTC.

- WARDI is opening a cholera treatment centre in Hamarajab district (Mogadishu) as part of the WHO collaborative activities to decongest Banadir Hospital. Mulrany International is also in the initial stages of opening an additional cholera treatment center in Xamar Weyne district (Mogadishu).



Nurses training in Daryeeland and Badbaado health centres by HIJRA.

- WHO encourages all field partners to screen all fever cases with the rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) as well as microscopy whenever it is available. RDTs have been provided by UNICEF to all health facilities and are available in large quantities.
- The Ministry of Health, WHO and UNICEF concluded two phases of Child Health Days (CHDs) in Banadir Region for more than 295 000 children and 317 000 women between the ages of 15 and 49.
- A team from the Somaliland Health authorities facilitated a television debate on the importance of vaccination among medical doctors, sheikhs and other prominent and influential persons from the region.



Mobile clinic activities organized by geelo in hiraan.

GAPS:

- The current big gap/health need is the lack of routine or mass immunization services in many settlements.

