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CHOLERA, DIARRHEA AND DYSENTERY UPDATE 2010 (06): AFRICA

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A ProMED-mail post

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In this update:

Africa

[1] Cholera - Kenya

[2], [3] Cholera - Mozambique

[4] Cholera - Zambia

[5] Cholera - Uganda (Manafwa)

[6] Cholera - Angola

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[1] Cholera - Kenya

Date: Fri 19 Mar 2010

Source: UN Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN) [edited]

<<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=88487>>

As of 15 Mar 2010, 15 districts nationwide were affected with cholera, with 663 cases confirmed since January 2010, according to a Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation update. At least 15 deaths have been recorded. Worst affected are parts of Coast, Eastern and Rift Valley provinces. Kajiado District, in Rift Valley, has 177 cases.

In 2009, at least 781 cholera cases were laboratory confirmed with 274 deaths, in an outbreak attributed to widespread water shortages because of drought, contaminated dry river beds and poor hygiene.

At present, more cholera deaths and cases are being reported in remote areas. Suspected cholera deaths have been reported in the northwestern Turkana Central District, the medical officer, Kilkrist Lokoyer, told IRIN.

"We have sent a medical team from Lodwar [the main town] to Mugur area where 5 people have reportedly died after vomiting and diarrhoea. We will conduct an audit to ascertain if it is indeed cholera that killed them," said Lokoyer. Mugur is an island in the crocodile-infested Lake Turkana making it difficult to access, he said.

Some 127 cases of cholera have been recorded in the eastern district of Tharaka since 7 Mar 2010, Justus Kitili, Tharaka medical officer, told IRIN. A temporary outpatient treatment camp has been set up at the worst-hit Makutano Police Post, with medical personnel from surrounding areas mobilized to assist the sick. Other areas affected include the villages of Ura Gate, Mauthuni, Gakauni and Gatithini.

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[The areas mentioned can be found on a map at:  
<<http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/kenya.pdf>>. The HealthMap/ProMED-mail interactive map of Kenya can be accessed at  
<<http://healthmap.org/r/017j>> - Mod.LL]

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[2] Cholera - Mozambique  
Date: Fri 19 Mar 2010  
Source: Agencia de Informacao de Mocambique [edited]  
<<http://allafrica.com/stories/201003190426.html>>

The Mozambican Health Ministry regards the cholera situation as "stationary" in the 5 northern and central provinces hit by the disease in 2010. The Ministry's spokesperson, Leonardo Chavana, told reporters on Thu 18 Mar 2010 that in the previous 24 hours several new cases of the disease had been notified, but no deaths were reported.

In the central province of Zambezia there had been 12 new cases, in Cabo Delgado 9 cases were reported, in Nampula 6 and in Sofala 5. In the 6th province affected, Niassa, there were no new cases at all.

The worst hit province is Zambezia. Since 1 Jan 2010, there have been 1188 cases notified in Zambezia and 19 deaths. The figures for Cabo Delgado are 679 cases and 7 deaths, and for Niassa 543 cases and 13 deaths. Sofala has reported 241 cases and 1 death, and Nampula 167 cases and 1 death.

So far no cases of cholera have been reported from the southern provinces. But Chavana said that, because of the heavy rains in the south over the past few days, the authorities are on the alert for possible outbreaks.

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[The areas of Mozambique mentioned can be found on a map at  
<<http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/mozambiq.pdf>>. The HealthMap/ProMED-mail interactive map of Mozambique can be seen at  
<<http://healthmap.org/r/00V3>>. - Mod.LL]

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[3] Cholera - Mozambique  
Date: Sat 13 Mar 2010  
Source: Targana.com [edited]  
<<http://blog.taragana.com/health/2010/03/13/mozambique-sees-rising-deaths-in-cholera-outbreak-with-42-dead-and-more-than-2600-infected-20409/>>

Mozambique's health ministry spokesman says the country's cholera outbreak has now killed 42 people in the northern and central parts of the southern African country. Leonardo Chavane says the disease is spreading, with more than 2600 cases of people who have contracted the contagious yet easily preventable infection in 2010.

He said that the situation remains worrying as some provinces hit by cholera are now also affected by flooding, which is likely to spread the disease further.

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[4] Cholera - Zambia  
Date: Fri 19 Mar 2010  
Source: Africa News [edited]  
<[http://www.africanews.com/site/Zambia\\_11\\_die\\_of\\_cholera/list\\_messages/30714](http://www.africanews.com/site/Zambia_11_die_of_cholera/list_messages/30714)>

A total of 11 people have died of cholera in Zambia since the outbreak of the disease at the onset of rainy season in late 2009. The waterborne disease is endemic in the southern African state during the wet and rainy season of October to March.

According to the Ministry of Health spokesperson Reuben Kamoto Mbewe, there has also been an increase in cholera cases from 241 in February 2010 to 564 in March 2010. He said, however, that the Ministry of Health has continued to monitor the situation from escalating and that basic water and sanitation measures are being provided to vulnerable communities nationwide.

[Byline: Sanday Chongo Kabange]

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[A map of Zambia can be found at:  
<<http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/zambia.pdf>>.  
The HealthMap/ProMED-mail interactive map of Zambia can be seen at  
<<http://healthmap.org/r/017q>>. - Mod.LL]

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[5] Cholera - Uganda (Manafwa)  
Date: Sat 6 Mar 2010  
Source: The Monitor [edited]  
<<http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/-/688334/873814/-/wj65dk/-/>>

The landslide affected area of Bududa District is on high alert for a cholera outbreak, as the infection has already been confirmed in the neighboring district of Manafwa, with further suspected infections in Butaleja.

"Several cases of cholera have been confirmed in Manafwa," said Ministry of Health spokesman Paul Kagwa. "The Ministry of Health has sent a team to assess the situation and determine an effective response."

Mr. John Bosco Isunju, a lecturer at the School of Public Health, Makerere University, said the concentration of displaced people in nearby villages and relief camps would increase the risk of cholera.

"Effort needs to be put on providing clean and treated water for people to drink," Mr Kagwa said.

[Byline: Katherine Haywood]

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[Manafwa District is in the Eastern Region of Uganda. The district was created in 1999 and was part of Mbale district, together with Sironko district, before 1999. In 2006, the northern part of Manafwa District was carved off to form Bududa district. The districts can be seen on the map at [http://www.coetzee-uganda.com/index\\_files/District\\_Map\\_of\\_Uganda.htm](http://www.coetzee-uganda.com/index_files/District_Map_of_Uganda.htm)]. The HealthMap/ProMED-mail interactive map of Uganda is available at <http://healthmap.org/r/016Z>. - Mod.LL]

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[6] Cholera - Angola  
 Date: 3 Mar 2010  
 Source: Angola Press [edited]  
[http://www.portalangop.co.ao/motix/en\\_us/noticias/sociedade/2010/2/9/Six-cholera-cases-reported-Tombwa,2729e2b5-c7e3-401b-b8c1-46b6a1a301a3.html](http://www.portalangop.co.ao/motix/en_us/noticias/sociedade/2010/2/9/Six-cholera-cases-reported-Tombwa,2729e2b5-c7e3-401b-b8c1-46b6a1a301a3.html)

A total of 6 cases of cholera disease were reported in the last 48 hours in the municipal hospital of Tombwa, southern Namibe province, Dr. Tomas Dias told Angola Press.

According to the doctor, the districts of Rocha Magalhaes and Pinda are the hardest hit by the disease due to shortages of potable water. He added that the Namibe province health authority on Monday [1 Mar 2010] started a training action of emergency teams. Those teams were to be sent to different places in the province to diffuse an awareness campaign to prevent the disease. He added that following the cholera outbreak the province is now under epidemiological surveillance.

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[The HealthMap/ProMED-mail interactive map of Angola is available at <http://healthmap.org/r/017M>. - Mod.LL]

### See Also

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  - 2009
  - 
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  - Cholera, diarrhea & dysentery update 2009 (01) [20090102.0015](#)
  - 2008
  - 
  - Cholera, diarrhea & dysentery update 2008 (57) [20081231.4125](#)
  - Cholera, diarrhea & dysentery update 2008 (01) [20080104.0047](#)
  - 2007
  - 
  - Cholera, diarrhea & dysentery update 2007 (67) [20071231.4200](#)
  - Cholera, diarrhea & dysentery update 2007 (01) [20070105.0047](#)
  - 2006
  - 
  - Cholera, diarrhea & dysentery update 2006 (52) [20061229.3646](#)
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