



Published Date: 2010-02-08 17:00:03

Subject: PRO/EDR> Cholera, diarrhea & dysentery update 2010 (02): Africa

Archive Number: 20100208.0428

CHOLERA, DIARRHEA AND DYSENTERY UPDATE 2010 (02): AFRICA

A ProMED-mail post

<<http://www.promedmail.org>>

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[1] Cholera - Zambia (Copperbelt)

Date: Sat 6 Feb 2010

Source: Lusaka Times [edited]

<<http://www.lusakatimes.com/?p=23772>>

Copperbelt Permanent Secretary Ville Lombanya says the province has recorded more than 70 cases of cholera from Chililabombwe and Kitwe districts in 2010. The PS said cholera has remained one of the world's most under reported and neglected diseases which occur in areas where access to safe water and sanitation is limited. Mr. Lombanya said this in Kitwe at the Edinburgh hotel during the provincial epidemics preparedness meeting. He said efficient cholera control measures need to be put in place at the national and sub region levels to prevent epidemics.

Chililabombwe district health director Dr. Kioso Mudimbiyi said the district had recorded 2 deaths out of the 36 cases of cholera that were confirmed.

Dr. Mudimbiyi in his presentation to the meeting said that contaminated water as a result of vandalized water pipes and shallow wells coupled with uncollected garbage have been identified to be a source of the outbreak. He added that the district's technical committee has intensified its monitoring of water quality in the district.

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Communicated by:

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[The districts mentioned are in the Copperbelt province of Zambia and can be found in the north central part of the country at:

<<http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/zambia.pdf>>. - Mod.LL]

[2] Cholera - Benin (Atlantique)

Date: Tue 2 Feb 2010

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

<<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=87964>>

In Benin, cholera has killed 5 people in the past 2 weeks in a rare dry-season outbreak. Health officials detected the 1st cases of the diarrheal disease on 13 Jan 2010 in the town of Bonou, 90 km east of the economic capital Cotonou, where 66 cases and 4 deaths were recorded up to 29 Jan 2010, according to the Health Ministry's director of sanitation Laurent Assogba. Three cases, one resulting in death, have also been recorded in Cotonou, he said.

Cholera generally spreads during the rainy season when flooding can contaminate water sources. The World Health Organization (WHO) says cholera in the dry season is uncommon but it does occur. "Cholera is not transmitted only via water during heavy rains," Aristide Roch Sossou of WHO-Benin told IRIN. "Foods [kept in unhygienic conditions] and dirty hands are also factors favoring cholera." He said studies are underway to identify the source and transmission mode of the disease in the latest outbreak.

In 2009 during the rainy season, at least 70 people died of cholera in Benin, according to the Health Ministry.

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Communicated by:

ProMED-mail Rapporteur Brent Barrett

[Cotonou is in Atlantique province in extreme southern Benin and can be found on a map at:

<<http://www.mapsofworld.com/benin/maps/benin-map.jpg>>. - Mod.LL]

[3] Cholera - Angola (Benguela)

Date: Mon 18 Jan 2010

Source: Angola Press [edited]

<http://www.portalangop.co.ao/motix/en_us/noticias/saude/2010/0/3/Over-cholera-cases-recorded-Ganda-district,6a08ac83-960f-43e5-b933-47198c1e371e.html>

A total of 31 cases of cholera, which resulted in one death, were registered by the local health sector from October to December 2009 in the district of Ganda, 220 km southeast of Benguela city.

According to the head of the department of public health and control of endemic diseases in Ganda, Daniel Chapo, the villages and surrounding wards of the district, namely Sisal Lundungo, Indongo, Lombas and Maias, are the most affected by the outbreak. He pointed to the lack of basic sanitation in wards and villages as the cause of the outbreak, having assured that the sector is implementing measures to contain and prevent the disease.

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[Benguela province is in west central Angola and can be found on a map at:

<<http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/angola.pdf>>. - Mod.LL]

[4] Cholera - Nigeria (Rivers)

Date: Tue 19 Jan 2010

Source: The Nigeria Compass [edited]

<http://www.compassnews.net/Ng/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=38858:cholera-six-dead-78-hospitalised-in-rivers&catid=672:top-stories&Itemid=794>

Six persons were confirmed dead on 18 Jan 2010, while 78 others were hospitalized following an outbreak of cholera at Opobo town in Opobo/Nkoro Local Government of Rivers State. The medical officer in charge of Opobo Health Centre, Dr Adio Mosumoluwa, said that the casualties were recorded at the weekend.

"We have recorded 6 fatal casualties, and we have 58 patients at Opobo Health Centre and another 20 at Nkoro town due to the outbreak," Mosumoluwa said.

He said the health center needed equipment and materials like antibiotic kits, universal bottles to collect urine samples, tetra dishes to collect stools, and water. Commissioner for Information, Mrs Ibim Semenitari, confirmed the outbreak and said a team had been sent to collect water samples from the area.

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[The Rivers state is located in extreme south central Nigeria and can be found on a map of the country at:

<<http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/nigeria.pdf>>. - Mod.LL]

[5] Cholera - Zimbabwe (Midlands)

Date: Mon 11 Jan 2010

Source: Voice of America [edited]

<<http://www1.voanews.com/zimbabwe/news/health/Zimbabwe-Another-Cholera-Death-Reported-in-Midlands-11Jan10-81153597.html>>

The World Health Organization has reported another death from cholera in the Midlands province of Zimbabwe, bringing the number of deaths from the communicable disease in recent months to 6. A WHO report said there were 149 confirmed cases of cholera and 5 deaths from the disease between the beginning of September 2009 and 3 Jan 2010. It said the latest death occurred in Sanyati, Midlands province.

Cholera claimed more than 4200 lives in Zimbabwe from late 2008 through mid-2009 as an epidemic raced out of control due to a widespread lack of clean water and the virtual collapse of the state health care system. The WHO said 10 of 62 districts in the country have been affected by the cholera outbreak recently compared with 51 districts in 2009.

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[The Midlands province of Zimbabwe in the central part of the country can be found on a map at:

<<http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/zimbabwe.pdf>>. - Mod.LL]

[6] Cholera - Tanzania (Mwanza)

Date: Mon 11 Jan 2010

Source: The Citizen [edited]

<<http://thecitizen.co.tz/newe.php?id=16760>>

Cholera has killed at least 60 people in Mwanza Region in the last 5 months.

Regional medical officer Mashack Massi said the deaths were recorded in Kwimba, Magu and Ukerewe districts from January 2009 to January 2010.

He said 35 out of 302 people who contracted the disease died in Kwimba District between August and October 2009. Of the 218 persons who contracted the disease in Ukerewe District, 20 died, while 15 out of 84 persons who contracted cholera in Magu also died.

Cholera broke out again in December 2009 when 195 persons contracted the disease, leading to the deaths of 18 people. Dr Massi said 7 out of 68 people who contracted the disease in Kwimba District had died by 7 Jan 2010. He said most of those who contracted cholera in Ukerewe and Magu districts did so after using contaminated water from Lake Victoria, while many of the patients in Kwimba caught the disease after visiting Magu District.

[Byline: Paulina David]

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[The province of Mwanza is in northern Tanzania and can be found on a map at:
<<http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/tanzania.pdf>>. - Mod.LL]

[7] Cholera - Kenya (Nyanza)
Date: Fri 8 Jan 2010
Source: The Daily Nation [edited]
<<http://www.nation.co.ke/News/regional/-/1070/838680/-/8obnod/-/>>

Hawking of cooked food in Ugunja Town, Ugenya District has been banned following a suspected cholera outbreak. The move comes after 10 patients showing cholera symptoms were admitted to Ambira Sub-District Hospital in Ugenya. Of the 10, one case was confirmed, according to public health officials.

This forced the officers and Provincial Administration to hold an emergency meeting to map out strategies on how to curb the spread of the deadly disease.

Ugenya district commissioner Caroline Onchoka said efforts were being made to contain it, adding that the public needs to observe proper hygiene. The administrator said it was worrying that cholera breaks out in Ugunja Town every 3 months and that steps must be taken to put a halt to this pattern.

Greater Siaya disease surveillance officer James Sande said 4 patients were still admitted to Ambira hospital.

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[The areas mentioned are in the Nyanza province of Kenya in the southwestern corner of the country and can be found on a map at:
<<http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/kenya.pdf>>. - Mod.LL]

[see also

Cholera, diarrhea & dysentery update 2010 (01): Europe, Asia [20100205.0387](#)
2009

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