

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

Situation report

APRIL 2019

Yemen conflict





24.1 MILLION*
IN NEED



14.3 MILLION **
IN ACUTE NEED



285,428 ***
CHOLERA CASES



19.7 M ****
IN NEED FOR HEALTH CARE

WHO



NUMBER OF WHO STAFF & OTHER CONTARTCS MODALITY IN COUNTRY: 230

HEALTH SECTOR

71 HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS
15.8 M TARGETED POPULATION –YHRP 2019
MEDICINES DELIVERED TO HEALTH FACILITIES/PARTNERS AS
OF APRIL 2019

TONS OF MEDICINES AND SUPPLIES8,340 LITRES OF FUEL TO HOSPITALS1.8 M LITERS OF WATER

HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 30 April, there have been a total of 285,428 cholera suspected cases with 570 associated deaths.
- The first round of oral cholera vaccination (OCV) was launched in three priority districts in Amanat Al Asimah on 24 April in collaboration with local health authorities and UNICEF. The campaign lasted 9 days and has reached 1,088,018 people, 89% of the 1.2 million target population. Support for the OCV campaign has come from the World Bank, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre and the UAE.
- 1.8 million litres of water and 8,340 litres of fuel have been distributed to WHO supported health facilities.
- More than 55 tons of essential medicines and supplies have been delivered to hospitals and health facilities.

* Yemen HNO 2019 ** Yemen HNO 2019

*** Cholera bulletin as 30 April 2019

***** Yemen- HRP 2019

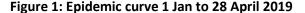
Situation update

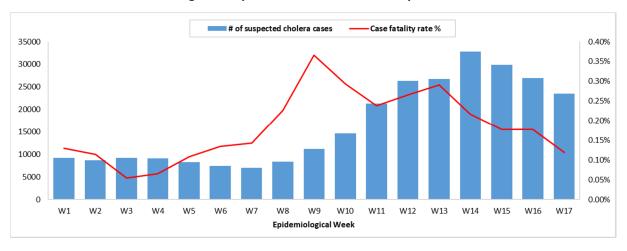
- Reports of suspected cases of cholera and acute watery diarrhea increased in March 2019, and were attributed to:
 - early arrival of the rainy season;
 - use of untreated sewage water for irrigation and farming with little to no maintenance of sewage disposal systems;
 - the ongoing displacement to and from high priority districts;
 - rapid demographic growth in urban areas combined with poor planning of waste water treatment facilities, which has overwhelmed existing waste water treatment facilities;
 - existing sewage networks require significant repairs and maintenance, which forces households in urban areas to use poorly designed and maintained onsite sewage disposal systems such as septic tanks, cesspits, soak-pits...;
 - in some rural areas open defecation remains the norm;
 - dynamic IDP movements to and from affected districts;
 - significant damage to infrastructures due to the ongoing conflict.
- The recent increase in cholera cases comes nearly two years after Yemen had suffered its worst ever cholera outbreak. Almost one-third of all suspected cases reported are among children under the age of five. Increasing rates of malnutrition have left many children vulnerable and at a greater risk of contracting the disease.
- Commercial food imports through Hudaydah and Saleef during the first quarter of the year were 40 % lower than the previous quarter, and average food prices are more than twice the pre-crisis level.
- Commercial fuel imports cover only 30% of estimated requirements. Fuel prices have nearly quadrupled in some places in the past several weeks, leaving people to wait in line for several days.

Cholera

From 1 January to 30 April 2019, there has been a total of 285,428 suspected cases of cholera and 570 associated deaths (CFR 0.20%). The number of suspected cases reported steadily decreased between epidemiological weeks 15 and 17 (8 April - 28 April). Children under the age of five represented on average 25% of the total number of suspected cases. As of April, 87% (290) of the 333 districts in Yemen reported suspected cholera cases since the beginning of 2019.

Epidemiological Update and Surveillance





Diphtheria

From 1 January to 30 April 2019, a total of 487 probable cases of diphtheria and 27 associated deaths have been reported. 114 districts reported suspected diphtheria cases. 59% of the reported cases were concentrated in three governorates: 24% in Al Hodeidah, 21% in Hajjah and 14% in Amanat Al Asimah.

Measles/Rubella

There has been a decrease in the number of reported measles cases following the measles vaccination campaign in February 2019, which targeted 12.9 million children from the ages of 6 months to 14 years (93% coverage). From 1 January to 28 April 2019, a total of 6,829 suspected cases of measles were reported, including 42 associated deaths (CFR 0.6%). During the last four epidemiological weeks, a total of 674 suspected cases were reported. Children under the age of five currently represent 68% of the total suspected caseload.

Dengue

From 1 January to 28 April 2019, there has been a total of 8,512 suspected cases of dengue fever reported along with 21 associated deaths (CFR 0.2%). Within the last four weeks, 87 districts reported suspected cases, with 79% of these being reported from five governorates: 22% in Aden, 20% Al Hodeidah, 14% in Al Mokala, 12% in Lahj and 10% in Taiz. The highest proportion of cases are being reported from districts where access is challenging due to insecurity.

Health Response and WHO Actions in April

Cholera

- The first round of oral cholera vaccination (OCV) for the three districts in Amanat Al Asimah, (Shu'aub, As Salbain, and Al Wahdah) was launched on 24 April and lasted until 2 May 2019. The
 - campaign was conducted in collaboration with local health authorities and UNICEF through the mobilization of 847 mobile vaccination teams, targeting a total population of 1,224,183, of which 1,088,018 (89%) were reached. Within each of the priority districts in Amanat Al Asimah, the total number of people vaccinated is as follows:



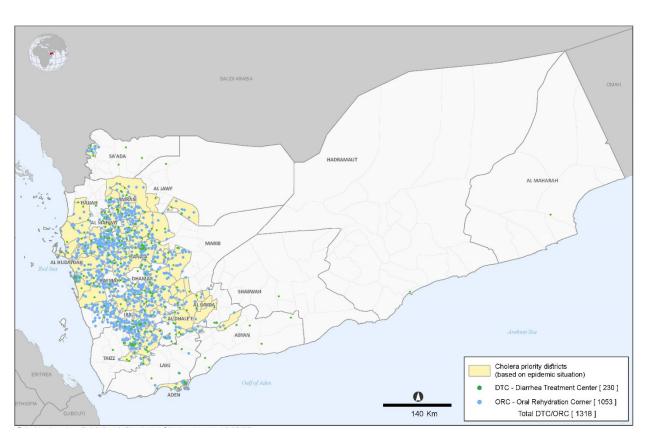
- 133,608 in Al Wahdah
- 293,758 in Shu'aub



A second round of OCV is also planned for the same three districts in Amanat Al Asima, as well
as 4 districts in southern governorates (Dar Sad district in Aden governorate, Ad-Dhale'e and
Qatabah districts in Al-Dhale'e governorate, and Al Qahirah district in Taizz governorate). The
first dose of cholera vaccine gives immunity for six months. The second dose will extend this
immunity for up to three years.

- As of 30 April, there are a total of 230 diarrhea treatment centres (DTCs), of which 146 are supported by WHO. Within the 146 facilities supported by WHO, 1,036 healthcare workers have been trained on cholera case management and infection prevention and control at the health facility level to reduce morbidity and mortality. Additional trainings were conducted with field epidemiological teams deployed to high risk districts to strengthen rapid investigation and response. During the reporting period, WHO completed the first phase of the case management training focusing on 147 priority districts. In the 13 northern governorates, 959 health workers from 127 DTCs in 108 districts were trained. The case management training in four of the southern governorates will start with an expected number of 77 health workers from 12 DTCs in 7 districts.
- WHO has distributed: 122 cholera kits benefiting approximately 12,200 beneficiaries, 5 cholera laboratory kits (approx. 500 samples), azithromycin (16,000 bottles/10,000 capsules) enough for treating approx. 17,667 beneficiaries); 12,720 Ringer lactate/50,000 DNS bottles for approx. 13,478 beneficiaries; 320,000 oral rehydration salts (ORS) sachets for approx. 32,000 beneficiaries; 1,056,000 water purification tablets (approx. 105,600 beneficiaries).

Geographic distribution of diarrhea treatment centres/oral rehydration corners in Yemen- as of April

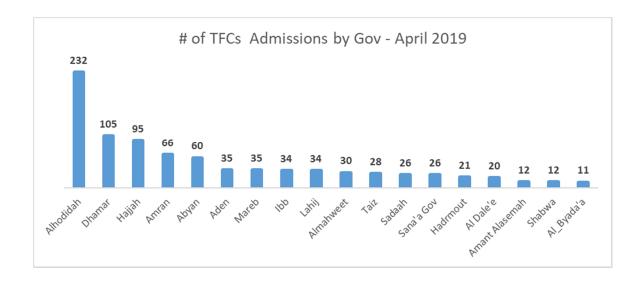


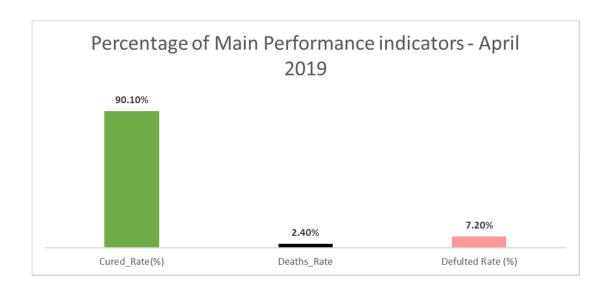
Medical and Trauma Care

- There have been 662,358 outpatient consultations during the month of April across the 226 WHO-supported health facilities in Yemen, bringing the total number of outpatient consultations in 2019 to 2.6 million. In addition, for the month of April there were:
 - 44,843 communicable disease consultations (154,538 to date in 2019);
 - 2,632 conflict-related trauma cases received life support (6,954 to date in 2019);
 - 24,712 surgeries (130,343 to date in 2019);
 - 49, 677 hospital admissions (186,306 to date in 2019);
 - 13,508 deliveries (57,857 to date in 2019).
- During the month of April, 8,340 liters of fuel and 1.79 million liters of water have been delivered to WHO supported health facilities, bringing the total amounts delivered in 2019 to 2.12 million liters of fuel and 30.9 million liters of water. The number of liters of fuel delivered in April increased by more than 30% from March as a result of increased access to fuel through Hudaydah.
- Additional supply and logistics support was provided to WHO-supported health facilities as they
 relate to trauma care. The total number of consultations delivered by 44 mobile teams increased
 from 123,284 in February to 135,939 in March 2019. Mobile surgical and emergency medical teams
 treating acute cases conducted 12,268 consultation in February and 9,368 consultations in March.

Nutrition

• In April, 882 children were admitted to WHO-supported therapeutic feeding centres (TFCs) for treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) with medical complications. The cure rate was reported at 90% with a case fatality ratio of 2.4%.





- 6264 children were screened at nutrition surveillance sentinel sites in April. The proportion of children
 referred for treatment of acute malnutrition was 19.7% and 4.8% for severe acute malnutrition.
 Nutritional surveillance reporting has demonstrated improvement across the 40 newly established
 sentinel sites in priority districts between November 2018 and April 2019. Improvements in reporting
 has facilitated and led to better-quality screening for SAM cases with medical complications.
- In coordination with health authorities in Aden, WHO conducted a three-day sensitization workshop
 on the Nutrition Strategic Plan for 2019-2020, targeting directors, managers and nutrition focal points
 at governorate health offices (GHOs). The workshop took place from 7 to 9 April and was attended by
 32 participants.

Non-Communicable Diseases and Mental Health

17,768 new hypertensive patients presented in April, a 5% decrease from the 18,627 patients attended to in March 2019.

Though interventions for mental illness are not well established in Yemen, 855 patients received mental health interventions at health facilities in April 2019.

Laboratory

In collaboration with the World Bank, WHO distributed a total of 287 reagent kits and 41,920 medical supplies used for blood collection to public health laboratories in Aden. This final batch concludes the quarterly distribution of reagents to transfusion centers supported by WHO and the World Bank.

Resource Mobilization

As part of the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP) for 2019, WHO is appealing for US\$ 307.1 million, of which US\$ 35.1 million has been received, leaving a 88.5% funding gap. The HRP remains heavily under-funded, impacting the continuity of life-saving programmes. Over 21,400 children with

SAM with medical complications will be left without access to life-saving care and treatment; and more than 5,300 health workers will no longer receive their minimum incentives.



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