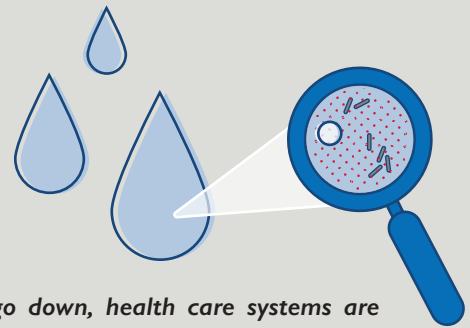


Combating Cholera During Disasters

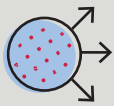


During a disaster, water can become contaminated, sanitation services go down, health care systems are crippled, malnutrition rises, and people resort to unsafe hygiene practices. Each of these increases the risk of diseases like cholera, a fast-spreading waterborne disease that can cause severe vomiting and diarrhea, and even death. Cholera is not only preventable, but is very treatable if people get help right away.

Cholera quick facts

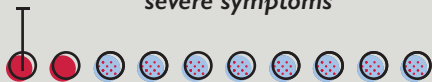


Cholera spreads through contaminated water and food



Most people have no symptoms, but still spread the disease

10-20 percent of people have severe symptoms



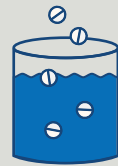
Without treatment severe cases can cause death within hours

80 percent of cases can be treated with rehydration

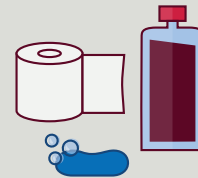


How USAID fights cholera outbreaks

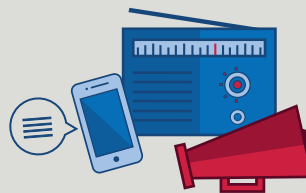
Prevention:



Chlorinate water supplies



Provide hygiene kits



Support cholera prevention education campaigns, focusing on:



Safe food handling



Safe water



Handwashing

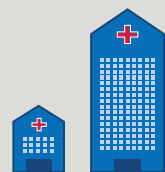
Treatment:



Provide medical supplies (IVs, oral rehydration salts, beds, disinfectant)



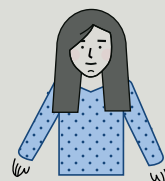
Train community health workers



Support treatment centers



Conduct disease surveillance



Support partners to send rapid response teams to treat patients



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