

Epidemiological Update

Cholera 3 March 2015

Cholera in the Americas - Situation summary

The last confirmed case of cholera in **Cuba** was notified by the Canada International Health Regulations (IHR) National Focal Point in January 2015. The case was an individual with history of travel to Cuba.

In the **Dominican Republic**, in 2014 there were 597 suspected cholera cases registered, including 10 deaths. In comparison to 2013, this represents a 70% reduction in the number of cases and 76% reduction in the number of deaths.

Between epidemiological week (EW) 1 and EW 5 of 2015, there were 99 suspected cholera cases registered, including 6 deaths. This represents an increase of more than double the cases observed for the same period of 2014. The largest proportion of cases in 2015, were registered in the National District, Pedernales, Santiago, and Santo Domingo.

Since the beginning of the epidemic (November 2010) to EW 5 of 2015, there were 32,171 suspected cholera cases, including 484 deaths, registered in the Dominican Republic.

In **Haiti**, since the beginning of the epidemic (October 2010) through 21 February 2015 (EW 7 of 2015), there were 731,880 cholera cases, including 416, 757 hospitalizations, with a 57% cumulative hospitalization rate and 8,741 related deaths recorded. The national cumulative fatality rate remains 1.2%.

From EW 1 to EW 7 of 2015, there were 7,225 cholera cases, including 5,794 hospitalizations, with a hospitalization rate of 80%, and 86 deaths. The number of cases and deaths registered in 2015 are higher than those recorded in the same period of 2014 and of 2012.

In **Mexico**, in 2014, there were 14 cholera cases registered in two states: Hidalgo (13) and Querétaro (1). Since the start of 2015, there were no new cholera cases registered.

Advice to national authorities

The Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) encourages Member States to remain vigilant and continue implementing the activities PAHO/WHO has recommended since November 2012, see the Epidemiological Alert.

References

- 1. Haiti, Ministère de la Santé Public et de la Population (MSPP). Direction d'Epidémiolgoie de Laboratoire et de Recherches (DELR). Rapport du Réseau National de Surveillance. Sites Choléra. Epidemiological Week 8 of 2015.
- Dominican Republic, Epidemiological Bulletins, 2015. Available at: http://www.digepisalud.gob.do/?page_id=93&drawer=Boletines-epidemiológicos*Boletín semanal
- 3. Mexico, Secretaria de Salud de México. Boletín Epidemiológico de la Dirección General de Epidemiologia. Available at: http://www.epidemiologia.salud.gob.mx/dgae/boletin/intd-boletin.html

Related links:

- WHO cholera fact sheet: http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs107/en/index.html
- PAHO cholera health topic: <u>www.paho.org/cholera</u>
- Information on WHO's statement relating to international travel and trade to and from countries experiencing outbreaks of cholera:
 http://www.who.int/cholera/technical/prevention/choleratravelandtradeadvice2311
 10.pdf