

Highlights:

- WHO-DEWS teams are closely working with provincial health department and partner organizations in flood affected areas for disease outbreak prevention and control. Regular visits are being carried out by DEWS Surveillance Officers along with Essential Medicine and Environmental Health teams to affected areas and relief camps.
- WHO is providing essential medicines, environmental health supplies, health education material and technical support to the provincial department of health.
- 158 snake bite cases from 15th July till date reported from Jaffarabad and 31 cases from Jhalmagsi while WHO provided 150 vials of Anti Snake Venoms (ASVs) in both districts.
- Measles alerts were reported from Naseerabad where WHO-DEWS teams conducted investigation and varified 6 cases and one death due to Measles. Immediate interventions were taken and immunization done.
- 11 BHUs at Jhalmagsi are severely affected of which some are partially functional and serving population outside the BHUs.
- In Punjab, Polio NID campaign is rescheduled in some of the affected districts and now it will be conducted from 26th August 2013 in those districts.
- Health Department Punjab has requested for active role and support of humanitarian partners and NGOs as a huge area across the province is inundated and there are chances of outbreaks of water borne & vector borne diseases among affected population.



Supply of WHO medicines to Emergency Relief camp at Multan (Photo: WHO Punjab)

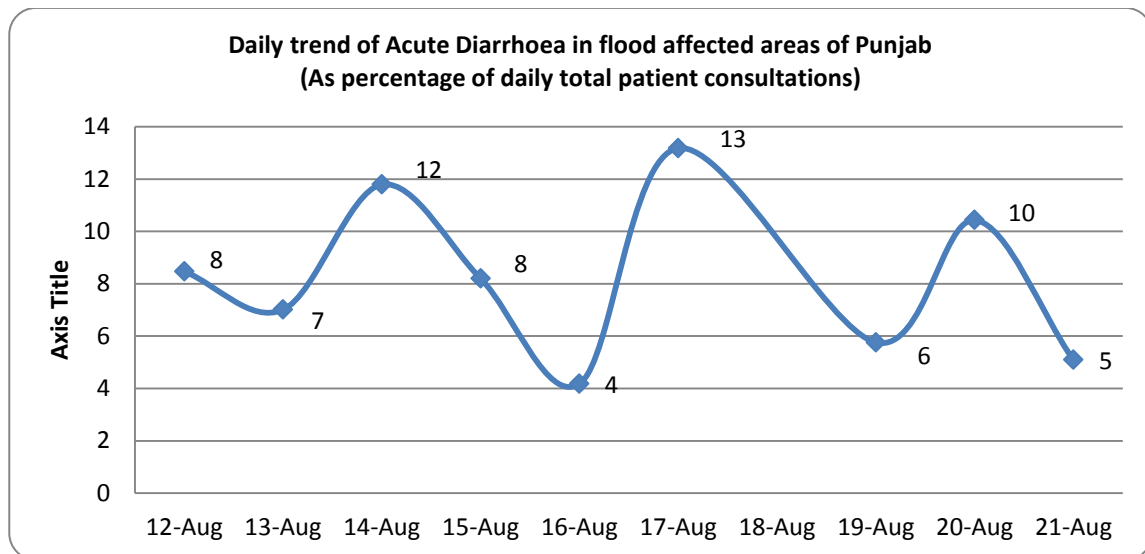
Health situation / health needs:

Punjab:

- According to PDMA Punjab Narowal, Sialkot, Gujranwala and Sheikhpura districts are severely affected while some areas of Narowal and Sheikhpura are severely hit and water inundated all roads leading towards these areas.
- PDMA reported that more than hundred thousand people have been affected by the flood this month. The rice crops in the region were damaged completely. Five thousand acres of land have been submerged while many houses have collapsed as the flood water has entered homes.
- In Gujranwala, according to an initial assessment 71 villages in 18 Union Councils flood water has been entered while according to Health Department 138,000 people have been affected.
- The cases of Dog bite and Snake bite are being reported with increased numbers (source DSS disease portal).
- During the reporting period, total 102 cases of Dengue fever cases reported through Dengue Dashboard from flood affected districts in Punjab. 4 of these were laboratory confirmed.

- WHO-DEWS team remained involved in investigation and response to 4 cases of diphtheria reported from Muzaffargarh, Lahore & Faisalabad. WHO has supplied Anti Diphtheria Serum (ADS) for these patients.
- Data has been collected from 8 flood affected districts of Punjab (DG Khan, Rajanpur, Narowal, Mandi Bahauddin, Sheikhupura, Kasur, Sialkot and Vehari) from 12th to -21st August, 2013. Data revealed that 9,943 (18%) of the consultations were reported of Scabies followed by ARI 8,949 (16%), Diarrhea 4,896 (9%), Suspected Malaria 621 (1%) whereas other diseases were 31,737 (57%) of the total 56,146 consultations.

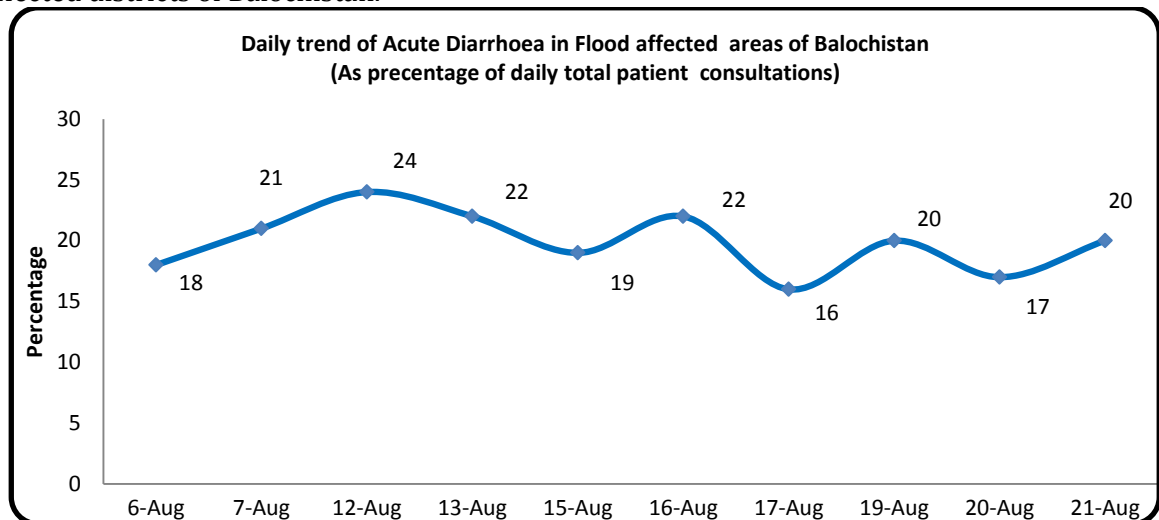
Figure 1: Daily trend of the Acute Diarrhea demonstrates the proportional morbidity of acute diarrhea from the flood affected districts of Punjab.



Baluchistan:

- Many Union Councils in Naseerabad are underwater including Hafeezabad, Rojhan Jamali, Samoo, UC Jhat Pat 1, 2, 3, 4, Youtgarh (Jaffarabad), Union Councils Gandawa, Bareeja, Saifabad, Shambani, and Jhal (Jhalmagsi) and Quba Sher Khan, Aliabad 1, Aliabad 2 and some villages near Rabi Canal.
- In the flood affected areas communities are using contaminated water for all household/drinking purpose and are at risk of Diarrhea, Malaria, Typhoid, Skin diseases and Eye infection.
- According to Divisional Director Health Services, in Naseerabad 11 BHUs at Jhalmagsi were severely affected, damaged and under water and the BHU staff providing service for the affected population in temporary health posts along road side.
- PPHI requested for eye and skin medicines to respond to the high number of skin and eye infection cases in Jaffarabad.
- Daily data has been collected from 18 sites from the 3 flood affected districts (Naseerabad, Jaffarabad and Jhalmagsi) of Balochistan, On the last day data shows that from the total 516 consultations 102 (20%) patient consultations were for Acute Diarrhea, 45 (9%) for ARI, 108 (21%) Suspected Malaria 50 (10%), Skin Diseases, 31 (6%) PoU and 126 (24%) for other health events. From 6th August to 21st August cumulatively 10,431 patient consultations have reported from flood affected districts with Acute Diarrhea 2,031 (20%), Suspected Malaria 1808 (17%), ARI 968 (10%) and Scabies 841 (8%).

Figure 2: Following trend line illustrates the proportional morbidity of acute diarrhoea in the flood affected districts of Balochistan.



An outbreak of measles was reported on 19 August 2013 from District Naseerabad with 6 suspected cases and 1 death due to measles. 2 blood samples were collected for laboratory confirmation. Vitamin A drops provided to the cases. Health education session conducted in the locality regarding the importance of routine immunization and isolation of the cases. Vaccination team had been sent to the affected area by the department of health to assess the vaccination status and further immunization of the unvaccinated children.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa:

- In Bannu district, boundary wall of RHC Domel had been partially damaged by flood water and there is no major damage to health facilities in Bannu and Lakki Marwat. WHO and PPHI have fulfilled essential medicines needs of the health facilities serving the flood affected communities.
- WHO held coordination meetings with DHO Bannu & Lakki and DSM PPHI Bannu and Lakki regarding the availability of essential medicines for flood emergency response. Two Diarrhea Treatment kits provided for the mobile and static health units.
- WHO field staff conducted awareness sessions on health and hygiene in Lakki Marwat and established ORT Corner at Rural Health Center Gamibla.

Health response:

Punjab:

- WHO-DEWS teams are working vigilantly and in close coordination with district administrations, health department and partner organizations in flood affected areas. Regular visits are being carried out by DEWS Surveillance Officers along with Essential Medicine and Environmental Health teams to affected areas and relief camps. WHO-DEWS team is also providing essential medicines, environmental health supplies, health education material and technical support to the department of health.
- WHO provided 80,000 Aqua tabs, 300 IEC materials, 360 soaps and 100 jerry cans to the district health department Gujranwala for further distribution in the community.
- Upon request Health Department Narowal 80,000 Aqua tabs, 360 Antibacterial soaps, 100 Jerry canes and 300 IEC materials were provided to the District for emergency response.
- Vector survey (Malaria and Dengue) will be carried out in the flood affected areas on priority basis from 23rd August 2013. Larviciding activity will be carried out side by side. All the fogging machines, spray pumps are in functional status. There are enough supplies for fogging and Indoor Residual Sprays (IRS).

- 1 DDK and 1000 Aqua tabs were provided by DG Health office to District Hafizabad.

Baluchistan:

- WHO-DEWS team reported, investigated and responded to alerts of CCHF; Dengue, Measles; Acute Watery Diarrhea; Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI), and scabies.
- 8 medical camps are working in Jhal Magsi, Gandawa, Bareeja, Kot Magsi, Saifabad and Shambani. Whereas 5 Camps are established at Jaffarabad with the support of PPHI for providing health care to flood affected population.
- WHO-DEWS teams including Surveillance Officers, Environmental Health Engineers and Pharmacists are actively working in the affected areas, responding to alerts/outbreaks, monitoring the disease trend and sharing daily updates with all stakeholders.
- WHO provided 10 chlorine color comparators for testing of free residual chlorine to Public Health Engineering Department-PHED, Jaffarabad.
- On the job training session was done with PHED field staffs on preparation of stock solution using of chlorine HTH 70% for water tankers, using of aqua tabs and water purification sachets, health and hygiene practices.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa:

- WHO responded in flood affected areas of Swat and provided 2000 soaps, 100 Bed nets, 13270 aqua tabs and 200 IEC materials on Dengue prevention to District Health Officer Swat.
- WHO provided 2000 soaps and 200 bed nets to PPHI Peshawar for response to alerts and outbreaks in post flood situation, WHO and PPHI has planned to arrange refresher training for PPHI staff in next monthly review meeting on water born disease alerts and outbreak.
- WHO conducted emergency on job training session for staff of Public Health Engineering department in Nowshera for provision of safe drinking water including chlorination of water sources specially water supply schemes affected by flood water.

Sindh:

- In Sukkar, 4 fix medical camps and 3 Mobile Medical Camps are working under the supervision of DHO Sukkur. Total 2280 patients were treated, of which Diarrhea 286, Dysentery 20, ARI 268, Suspected Malaria 47, Skin Disease 337, Eye infections 130

Coordination:

- WHO-DEWS teams conducted meetings with Deputy Commissioner Jaffarabad, Divisional Director Health Services Naseerabad, DHOs and PPHI team regarding the disease situation and epidemic outbreak control. Disease data was shared and government authorities were updated on the disease situation especially diarrhea as well needs and gaps in health services delivery in the affected areas.
- Coordination meetings were arranged with staff of Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) Dera Allah Yar district Jaffarabad to discuss the chlorination and disinfection of water sources to ensure proper chlorinated water to flood affected communities. PHED is providing drinking water tankers to flood affected communities of district Jaffarabad and Sohbatpur. Technical support on disinfection/chlorination and hygiene education/awareness was provided to field staffs of PHED.
- WASH Cluster meeting held at local government secretariat Peshawar where WHO informed about the preposition of chlorine products (Calcium Hypochlorite HTH) to PHED subdivisions and Municipal Corporations throughout the province except Chitral for chlorination and disinfection of the water supply schemes in case of disease alerts; the cluster meeting was informed that WHO can provide chlorine products to the NGO partners for chlorination if requested in case of water borne disease outbreak.

WHO's essential medicines support and population coverage:

Approximate coverage include 152,088 population with DDKs, EHKs, malarial medicines, skin preparations & other medicines for alerts & outbreaks response											
Province	Districts	DDK	EHK	ORS	RDT	Primaquine	Anti Malarial	ASV	Hygiene kits	TIG	Population coverage
KPK	Bannu	2	1					3			10,003
	DI Khan	2	1					3			10,003
	Swat	4						4			2,004
	kohat	2						2			1,002
Punjab	Narowal	2									8,143
	Rawalpindi	2									1,000
	Sialkot	2									1,000
	Rahim yar khan										0
	DG Khan	2	1	5000 0	1020						18,163
	Rajan Pur	2			2000	20000	2800		30		6,497
	Muzaffargarh	2			1020						2,020
	DGHS Punjab	22			1500 0	100000					29,333
	layyah	2			2000	20000	2800				6,467
Baluchistan	Loralai	1	1				5000				14,500
	Jhalmagsi	1	2		2000						20,500
	DGHS Balochistan										0
	Naseerabad/jaffarabad	2	2								19,000
Sindh	Karachi	1									500
	Hyderabad			1000 0							1,429
	DGHS Sindh										0
	Larkana							25			25
	Jacobabad	1									500
	Matitari										0
	Tharparkar										0
	Sukkur										0
Shikarpur										0	
	Total	52	8	60,000	23,040	140,000	10,600	37	30		152,088

For further information, contact:

Dr Fawad Khan Health Cluster Coordinator/Acting EHA Coordinator, WHO Pakistan,

Email: khanmu@pak.emro.who.int, Cell: 0300 5018530

Mohammad Shafiq, Technical Officer – Health Cluster, WHO Pakistan

Email: shafiqm@pak.emro.who.int; Cell: 0303 555 2270