



WHO Somalia

Acute Watery Diarrhoea Update, Somalia

05 May 2008

Situation analysis

Between 1 January and 5 May 2007 (epidemiological weeks 1-18), a total of **39 888** cases of clinically diagnosed Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) including 517 related deaths (CFR¹ **1.30%**) were reported from Somalia². AWD cases were reported from all the 3 zones. Overall, **64%** (25 555/ 39 888) were less than 5 years old. The weekly distribution of AWD cases and CFR is shown in figure 1.

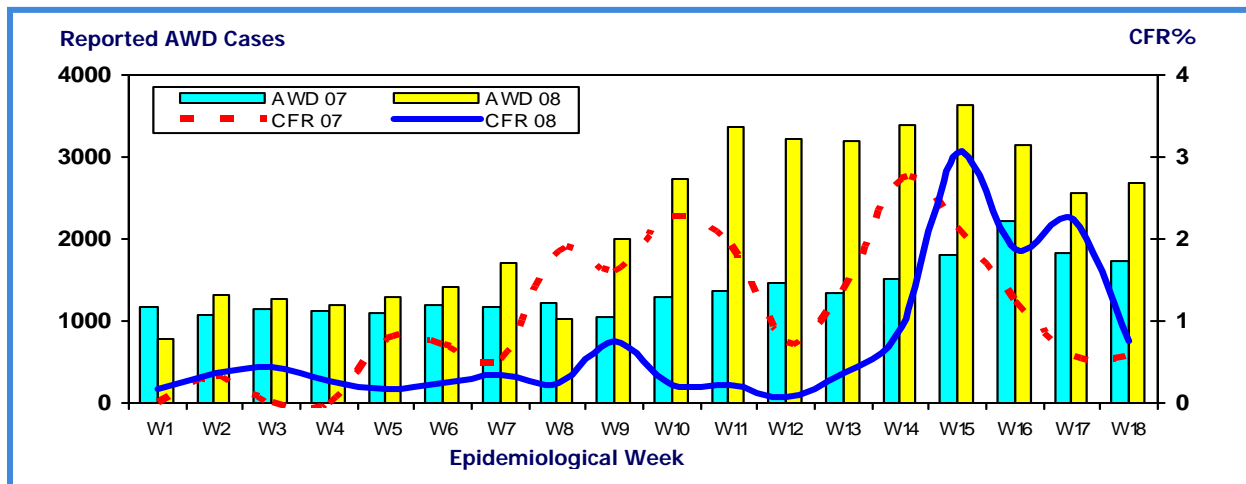


Figure 1: Weekly Distribution of reported AWD cases and CFR, Somalia, epidemiological weeks 1-18, 2007-2008

In the same period of 2008 (epidemiological week 1-18) a total of **24 828** AWD cases were reported including 211 related deaths (CFR **0.85%**). Overall, **73%** (18 119/ 24 828) were less than 5 years old. In comparison with 2007 data (epidemiological weeks 1-18) the trend shows a marked decrease in the

¹ The case fatality rate (CFR) refers to the number of deaths per 100 cases

² The number of the reporting sites were increased by 20% in 2008 compared to 2007

number of reported cases and related deaths in all the zones. In the current year, the reported cases decreased by **38%**, in comparison with same period of the previous year (24 828 and 39 888 cases respectively). The overall CFR continues to decrease: from 1.30% up to the epidemiological week 18 to 0.85% (517 and 211 deaths respectively).

In the last four epidemiological weeks (15 to 18), the trend shows a decrease in the number of reported cases from all the 10 regions. In the current week (epidemiological week 18), the reported cases decreased by 5%, in comparison with the previous week (1742 and 1833 cases respectively). The overall CFR continues to decrease: from 2.24% in epidemiological week 17 to 0.75% in week 18.

Reported Outbreaks

1. Dhahar District, Sool Region

Between 10 March and 5 May 2007, a total of **535** cases of clinically diagnosed Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) including **18** related deaths (CFR **3.36%**) were reported from **Dhahar district, Sanaag Region**. The daily distribution of AWD cases in Sanaag is shown in figure 2.

Overall, **74%** (398/535) were less than 5 years old. The weekly distribution of AWD cases and CFR is shown in figure 2.

Six out of 9 stool samples collected from Dhahar and surrounded in Sol district on 15 April 2008, were confirmed *V. cholerae*, serogroup O1, serotype *Inaba* by the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF) laboratory in Nairobi. The mean age of confirmed cases was 24.3 years, ranging from 5-50 years. 56% (6/9) were males. The *Vibrio* was resistant to Chloramphenicol, Cotrimoxazole and Nalidixic acid, while sensitive Tetracycline.

On the other hand, on 15 April 2007, AWD cases were reported from Hin-Galool, as of 5 May, a total of 47 cases were reported including 2 deaths (CFR **4.23%**).

WHO provided IV fluids, ORS and antibiotics (erythromycin and Tetracycline) to MOH. In addition transport media were sent to ensure laboratory confirmation of the reported cases.

