



GLOBAL TASK FORCE ON
CHOLERA CONTROL

Laboratory Surveillance Working group

Joint Meeting of the Working Groups on Surveillance (Laboratory & Epidemiology)

15-17 April 2019 – Annecy, France

Surveillance working group

- Working Group on Laboratory Methods for Cholera Surveillance (Laboratory WG)
- Working Group on Epidemiology for Cholera Surveillance (Epidemiology WG).
- Laboratory WG: five meetings
 - On 19 December 2014 in Paris, France (Lab)
 - On 26-27 November 2015 in Faridabad, India (Lab)
 - On 12-13 April 2016 in London, UK (Lab&Epi)
 - On 2-4 May 2017, Tunis, Tunisia (Lab&Epi)
 - On 16-18 April 2018, Annecy, France (Lab&Epi)

Tasks of the Lab WG

To reinforce cohesion, coordination, and capacity at laboratory level to support global cholera control

- Present results and recommendations for validation during GTFCC meetings and develop guidance notes
- Facilitate the establishment of a laboratory network for global cholera surveillance and control within the GTFCC framework
- Build-up a “cholera strains data bank” for the exchange of the characteristics of pathogens identified, antimicrobial susceptibility testing results and other items related to surveillance of *V. cholerae*

Laboratory Surveillance Working group achievements

Interim technical notes

Lab WG:

- The Use of Cholera Rapid Diagnostic Tests, November 2016
 - Focus on getting RDTs WHO prequalified :
 - Groupe of experts Promote and develop a pre-qualification process for RDT
 - Target Product Profile (TPP) for the development of improved Cholera rapid diagnostic tests, June 2017
- Introduction of DNA based identification and typing methods to public health practitioners for epidemiological investigation of cholera outbreaks, June 2017

Epi &Lab WG:

- Interim Guidance Document on Cholera Surveillance, June 2017

Conclusions of the last meeting (April, 2018)

- Laboratory capacity in countries needs to be strengthened (culture and PCR, rational use of RDTs at health facility level, AMR testing).
- Particular attention must be paid to specimens adequate preservation, packaging and shipment, either for national, regional or international transport and testing.
- Quality control and quality assurance must be ensured.
- Molecular testing, genomic, access and analysis: it was suggested that access to whole genome sequencing analysis be increased but how to achieve this must be studied.
- **The Lab package offered to countries** would really be a "from field to laboratory" approach to the sample.

Objectives of the meeting

- **Review, finalize, validate Lab Offer of Services**

Job aids:

- RDT use and interpretation
- Sample Collection and Transportation within country
- Culture Isolation-identification of cholera vibrios
- AMR testing
- Strain Conditioning for International Transportation

Objectives of the meeting

To discuss Technical guidances:

- EQA for national labs (Chesco Nogareda):

Improve the quality of laboratory diagnostics of cholera for national laboratories in cholera affected countries

- PCR (Martine Guillerm):

Appropriate techniques, as a tool for cholera *Vibrio* identification

- How to implement PCR in the countries
- Methodology and targets,

Objectives of the meeting

Point of the session: *Access to whole genome sequencing*

What are the expectations of the countries?

What is its role in outbreak control?