

Cholera surveillance for health care workers

Module 4



GLOBAL TASK FORCE ON
CHOLERA CONTROL

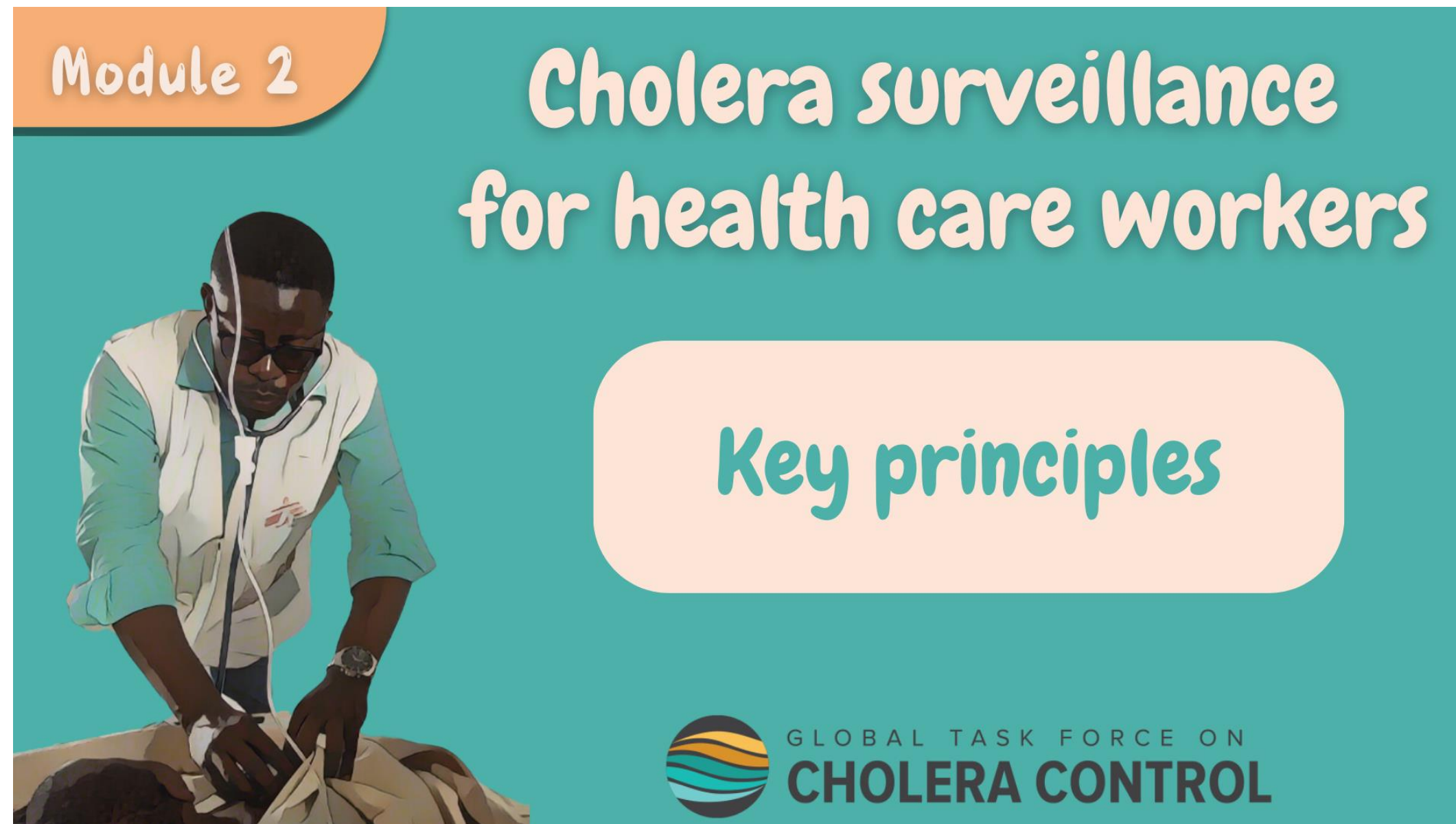
Cholera surveillance for health care workers

Monitoring of
outbreaks



Get ready for this module

Before taking this module, make sure to complete **Module 2 'Key Principles'**

The graphic is a rectangular cover for 'Module 2'. It has a teal background. In the top-left corner, there is an orange rounded rectangle containing the text 'Module 2' in white. To the left of the center, there is a stylized illustration of a male healthcare worker wearing a white lab coat, a stethoscope, and sunglasses, leaning over a patient. To the right of the illustration, the title 'Cholera surveillance for health care workers' is written in large, white, rounded letters. Below the title, there is a light orange rounded rectangle containing the text 'Key principles' in teal. At the bottom right, there is a logo for the 'GLOBAL TASK FORCE ON CHOLERA CONTROL', which consists of a circular emblem with blue and yellow wavy lines and the text 'GLOBAL TASK FORCE ON CHOLERA CONTROL' in black capital letters.

Module 2

Cholera surveillance for health care workers

Key principles

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What will you learn?

- ➔ **How** to implement surveillance to monitor an outbreak including:
 - How to identify **patients with suspected cholera**
 - Which patients with suspected cholera to **test**
 - How often to **report** patients with suspected cholera



Background

Surveillance for outbreak monitoring

When **there is a cholera outbreak** in a geographic area

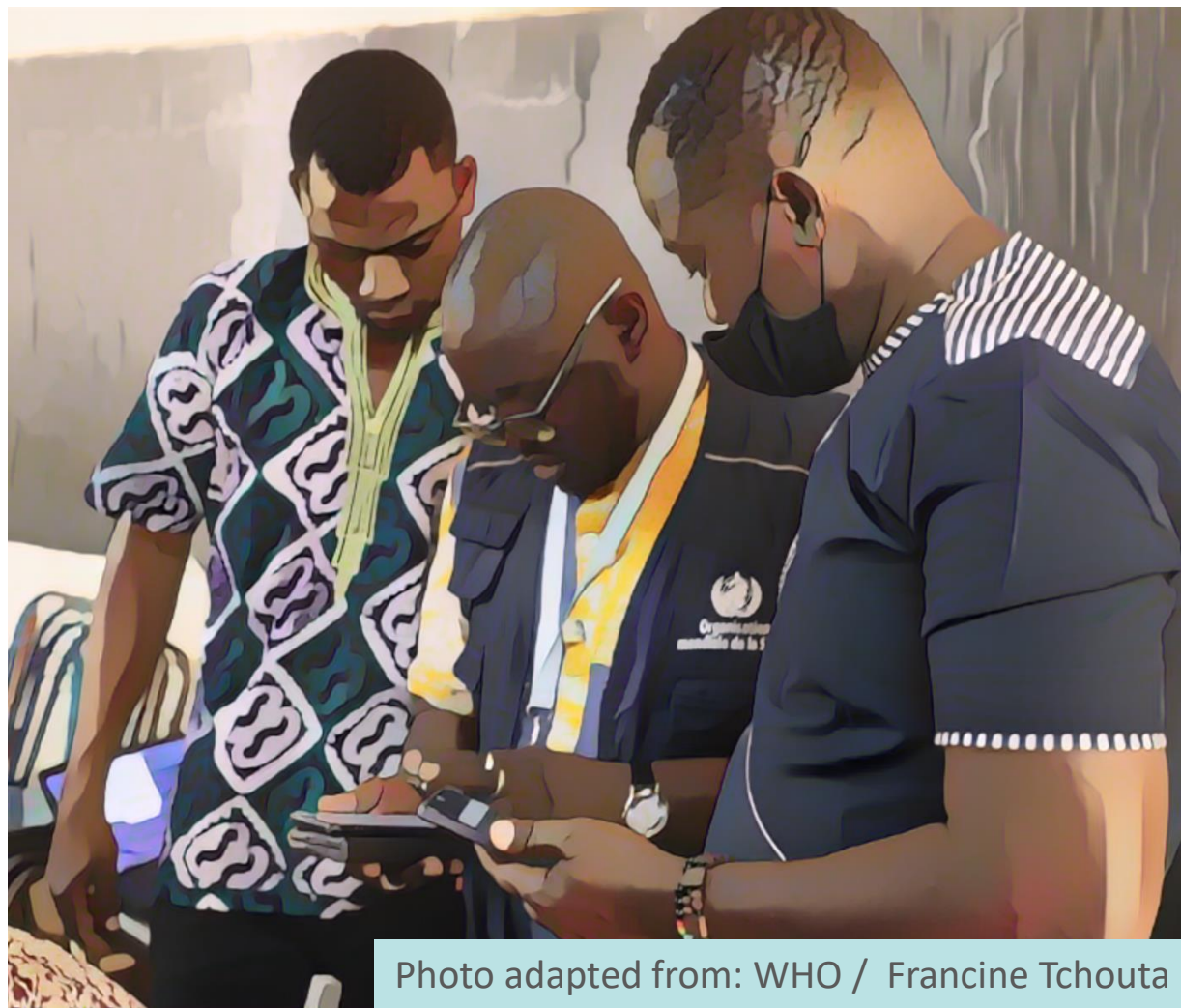


Photo adapted from: WHO / Francine Tchouta

➡ Health authorities regularly update health care workers on the **cholera situation in their geographic area**

➡ **Stay up-to-date**



➡ At any point in time, know:

- The **cholera situation in your geographic area**
- Whether surveillance is to monitor a cholera outbreak

Surveillance objective

Surveillance to monitor an outbreak **generates information to guide multisectoral interventions** to end the outbreak

Identify, test, and report patients with suspected cholera in accordance with the recommendations in this module

- As long as there is an outbreak
- If the situation changes, surveillance evolves

 **Learn about surveillance in other situations in Modules 3 & 5**



Patients with
suspected cholera

Case definition

Patients with suspected cholera:

- ➔ **Any patient with AWD** (or who died from AWD)



Learn how to recognize AWD in Module 2

NO criteria on age or severe dehydration

- ➔ Comprehensive overview of the outbreak to effectively guide the response

Testing for cholera

Principle for testing

Some of the patients with suspected cholera are tested

No need to test all

- ➡ Treatment plan depends on dehydration
- **Not** on individual laboratory results

Necessary to test some

- ➡ Monitor outbreak trends
- ➡ Monitor circulating strain(s)
 - Including susceptibility to antimicrobials

Testing with RDTs

If RDTs ARE available at your facility

Each day, test with a RDT the first 3 patients with suspected cholera seen at your facility

- ✓ Case definition and time of arrival are the **only** criteria
- ✗ Do **not** apply any additional criteria (e.g., age, severity)

➡ **Repeat this every day throughout the outbreak**

- If **less than 3 patients** with suspected cholera are seen on a given day:
 - **Test all** of them
- If **no patient** with suspected cholera is seen on a given day:
 - **No test**

➡ Follow the directions of your health authority for laboratory testing on (some) patients RDT+



Testing without RDTs

If RDTs are NOT available at your facility

Each week, collect and send samples for testing on the first 3 patients with suspected cholera seen at your facility

- ✓ Case definition and time of arrival are the **only** criteria
- ✗ Do **not** apply any additional criteria (e.g., age, severity)

➡ **Repeat this every week throughout the outbreak**

- If **less than 3 patients** with suspected cholera are seen on a given week:
 - **Collect samples on all** of them
- If **no patient** with suspected cholera is seen on a given week:
 - **Don't collect samples** for testing



A healthcare worker in a white lab coat and glasses is pointing at a tablet held by a woman in a yellow and blue uniform. They are both looking at the tablet. The woman is also holding a blue pen. In the background, there are several papers pinned to the wall. The overall scene suggests a medical or public health setting.

Reporting cholera

Reporting cholera

Report standard information collected on all patients with suspected cholera seen at your facility to the health authority **at the end of each week**

Essential to monitor the evolution of the outbreak



Learn about the standard information to be collected & reported in Module 2

- ➡ If on a given week, no patient with suspected cholera was seen in your facility
 - Report the **absence of cases** at the end of the week (**zero reporting**)
- ➡ At the beginning or towards the end of the outbreak
 - Your health authority may request more frequent reporting (e.g., daily)
- ➡ To report, use the channels & mechanisms set at your facility (e.g., reporting focal point)

Wrap up

- ➡ In geographic areas where **there is a cholera outbreak**, surveillance is to monitor the outbreak
- ➡ Patients with suspected cholera are **any patients with AWD** (or who died from AWD)
- ➡ **SOME** of the patients with suspected cholera **are tested**
 - **If RDTs are available, first three patients** with suspected cholera **on each day**
 - **If RDTs are not available, first three patients** with suspected cholera **on each week**
- ➡ Standard information on all patients with suspected cholera is **reported weekly**
- ➡ If no patient with suspected cholera was seen, this is also reported weekly



Question 1



- To monitor a cholera outbreak, a patient with suspected cholera is any patient:
- a) Aged ≥ 2 years old with AWD
 - b) With AWD and severe dehydration
 - c) Aged ≥ 2 years old with AWD and severe dehydration
 - d) With AWD

Question 1 – Answer



■ To monitor a cholera outbreak, a patient with suspected cholera is any patient:

- a) Aged ≥ 2 years old with AWD
- b) With AWD and severe dehydration
- c) Aged ≥ 2 years old with AWD and severe dehydration
- d) With AWD**

Question 2



► **To monitor a cholera outbreak:**
(Select all that apply)

- a) Any patient with suspected cholera is reported daily
- b) Any patient with suspected cholera is reported weekly
- c) The absence of patient with suspected cholera is reported daily
- d) The absence of patient with suspected cholera is reported weekly

Question 2 – Answers



► To monitor a cholera outbreak:

- a) Any patient with suspected cholera is reported daily
- b) Any patient with suspected cholera is reported weekly**
- c) The absence of patient with suspected cholera is reported daily
- d) The absence of patient with suspected cholera is reported weekly**

Question 3



■ To monitor a cholera outbreak, any patient with AWD is tested for cholera:

- a) True
- b) False

Question 3 – Answer



► To monitor a cholera outbreak, any patient with AWD is tested for cholera:

a) True

b) False

Together we can
#Endcholera



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