



Meeting of the Global Task Force on Cholera Control (GTFCC)

Laboratory Working Group

21-23 May 2024 - Cairo, Egypt

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Day 1 – 21 May

OPENING CEREMONY		Session moderator: P. Barboza (WHO, GTFCC)
Welcome		
	Head of the GTFCC Secretariat	P. Barboza (WHO GTFCC)
09.00-09.15	Chair of the GTFCC Epidemiology Working Group	F. Finger (Epicentre)
	Chair of the GTFCC Laboratory Working Group	M.L. Quilici (Institut Pasteur)
Opening remarks		
09.15-09.25	WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean	R. Brennan (EMRO, Regional Emergency Director)
09.25-09.30	WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean	R. Hajjeh (EMRO, Director of Programme Management) (Online)
HIGHLIGHTS IN 2023/2024		Session moderator: N. Wauquier (WHO, GTFCC)
Laboratory Working Group – Progress in 2023/2024		
09.30-10.05	2023/2024 Highlights	M.L. Quilici (Institut Pasteur)
10.05-10.15	Q&A	
10.30-10.45	Coffee break	
Strengthening Cholera Diagnostics		
10.45-11.05	Global deployment of RDT for cholera surveillance	A. Sinha (Gavi)
11.05-11.25	Cholera RDTs: Catalysts for Enhanced Surveillance in the Democratic Republic of Congo.	P. Okitayemba (MOH) / X. Wang (CDC)
11.25-11.40	A multi-site pilot study of the deployment of cholera rapid diagnostic tests in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.	W. Moser (Epicentre) (Online)
11.40-12.00	The RISE (RDT implementation, Strategy, and Evaluation) Project: a GAVI funded project to pilot the use of cholera RDTs in Nepal.	A. Debes (JHU)
12.00-12.30	Panel Q&A	
12.30-14.00	Lunch	

GTFCC TESTING STRATEGY FOR CHOLERA SURVEILLANCE		Session moderators: A. Debes (JHU) - X. Wang (CDC)
Recommendations for cholera surveillance, the laboratory perspective		
14.00-14.40	2024 guidance for cholera surveillance (testing strategy)	M. Turnsek (CDC)
14.40-14.50	Q&A	
Experience sharing		
14.50-15.05	Experience sharing - Malawi	M. Nyanje (MoH) (Online)
15.05-15.20	Experience sharing - Mozambique	J.P. Langa (MOH)
15.20-15.35	Experience sharing - Nepal	S. Dahal (MoHP)
15.35-15.45	Panel Q&A	
15.45-16.00	Coffee break	
Way forward to implementing the testing strategy		
	<i>Roundtable discussion:</i>	A. Debes (JHU), X. Wang (CDC)
16.00-17.00	Lessons learned - implementing the testing strategy and global rollout of RDT	

Day 2 – 22 May

LABORATORY CAPACITY AND COMPETENCY		Session moderator: A. Mataka (ASLM)
GTFCC laboratory capacity assessments for cholera		
09.00-09.15	GTFCC tools for laboratory capacity assessment	V. Harris (WHO) (Online)
09.15-9.30	Experience from the Democratic Republic of the Congo	B. Miwanda (INRB Kinshasa)
09.30-9.45	Experience from Cameroun	A. Mfoulou Assala (LNSP Yaounde)
09.45-10.00	Q&A	
GTFCC training packages and ToT		
10.00-10.15	GTFCC laboratory training tools	A. Abou Fayad (WHO, GTFCC)
10.15-10.30	National ToT, experience from Comoros	D. Soule (MoH) (Online)
10.30-10.45	National ToT, experience from South Sudan	G. Awini (MoH)
10.45-11.00	Q&A	
11.00-11.15	Coffee break	
GENOMICS FOR CHOLERA SURVEILLANCE		Session moderator: L. Meredith (WHO EMRO)
11.15-11.25	Updating the GTFCC recommendations	A. Abou Fayad (WHO, GTFCC)
11.25-11.35	Country experience: Lebanon	A. Abou Fayad (for AUB)
11.35-11.45	Training for sequencing	L. Meredith (EMRO)
11.45-12.30	<i>Roundtable discussion:</i> Use-case for genomics for cholera surveillance	L. Meredith (WHO EMRO)
12.30-14.00	Lunch	
BREAKOUT SESSIONS		Moderators
14.00-17.00	Way forward in the Middle East region	T. Mollet (WHO EMRO), E. Baron (WHO-GTFCC)
	Way forward in the African region	F. Kapaya (WHO AFRO), J. Ikejezie (WHO-GTFCC)

Way forward in Asia

P. Barboza & M. Martinez
(WHO-GTFCC)

Internal meeting of members of the Laboratory Working
Group

M.L. Quilici (Institut Pasteur)

Day 3 – 23 May

OPEN FORUM ON CHOLERA SURVEILLANCE		Session moderator: A. Azman (JHU) / T. Thomas (IFRC)
09.00-09.15	Cholera surveillance in Bangladesh and how it informs the NCP	A. Khan (icddr,b)
09.15-09.30	Understanding endemic cholera and control: Lessons from Uvira, DRC	A. Azman (JHU)
09.30-09.45	Reinforced surveillance in the context of preventative OCV campaigns, Goma & Bukama, DRC	A. Broban (Epicentre) (Online)
09.45-10.00	Integrated Outbreak Analytics: multidisciplinary analysis to better understand and respond to outbreaks	S. Carter (UNICEF) (Online)
10.00-10.15	Application of Integrated Outbreak Analytics in DRC	P. Okitayemba (MOH)
10.15-10.30	Combining genomic and epidemiologic data to better understand cholera transmission in Africa	B. DiPrete (University of North Carolina) (Online)
10.30-10.45	Mapping a decade of cholera burden in Africa, a spatial statistical analysis from 2011-2020	E. Lee (JHU)
10.45-11.15	Coffee break	
11.15-11.30	Cholera diagnosis at the National Public Health Laboratory, Cameroun	C. Killa (LNSP, Cameroun) (Online)
11.30-11.45	Pakistan laboratory response in 2022-2023 cholera outbreak	A. Zaman (NIH, Pakistan)
11.45-12.00	Updates from an evaluation of 5 cholera RDTs in Dhaka Bangladesh	T. Bhuiyan (icddr,b)
12.00-12.15	Cholera testing in MSF programs	E. Piriou (MSF) (Online)
12.15-12.30	A 4-Year Study of the Clinical and Environmental Epidemiology of Vibrio cholerae and Household Transmission Dynamics in Urban Democratic Republic of the Congo: PICHA7 Program	C.M George (JHU) (Online)
12.30-14.00	Lunch	
SHAPING THE WAY FORWARD		Session moderator: P. Barboza (WHO-GTFCC)
Reporting on regional breakout sessions		
14.00-14.30	Africa: reporting from breakout session & discussion	Rapporteur
14.30-15.00	Middle East: reporting from breakout session & discussion	Rapporteur
15.00-15.30	Asia: reporting from breakout session & discussion	Rapporteurs
15.30-15.45	Americas: update from the region & discussion	M. Rondy (WHO PAHO) (Online)

15.30-16.00	Coffee break	
Reporting on Working Groups breakout sessions		
16.15-16.25	Priorities for the Epidemiology Working Group	F. Finger (Epicentre) (online)
16.25-16.35	Priorities for the Laboratory Working Group	M.L. Quilici (Institut Pasteur)
16.35-16.45	Q&A and discussion	P. Barboza (WHO-GTFCC)
CLOSING CEREMONY		Session moderator: P. Barboza (WHO-GTFCC)
	Epidemiology and Laboratory Working Group chairs	F. Finger (Epicentre) (online) & M.L. Quilici (Institut Pasteur)
16.45-17.00	Head of the GTFCC Secretariat	P. Barboza (WHO-GTFCC)
	WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean	T. Mollet (WHO EMRO)