

South Sudan: Oral Cholera Vaccination campaign concludes, Malaria deaths top 4,000

Cholera

The first round of an Oral Cholera Vaccination (OCV) campaign in four priority counties of South Sudan with active transmission of cholera, has successfully concluded despite security and access challenges in some areas, the World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa (WHO/AFRO) reports.

The vaccination campaign started on the 29 July, 2017 to 4 August, 2017 in the Kapoeta state including Kapoeta South, Kapoeta North, and Kapoeta East while in Tonj East the campaign started on 5 August, 2017 and ended on 12 August, 2017.

A total of 500,010 doses of the vaccine, targeting of 500,000 people were deployed across the four counties. A second round of OCV will be administered across the four counties after 14 days to ensure effective protection against cholera for the affected populations.

Over 19,000 cases of cholera and 355 deaths have been reported in South Sudan since June 2016.

The vaccines were donated by the Global Task force on Cholera Control(GTFCC) as part of the global response strategy. The Ministry of Health and WHO in collaboration with UNICEF supported the shipment of campaign logistics including OCV and cold chain equipment to the four counties. WHO provided technical support to the implementing health partners, and coordination of the campaign. The campaign was implemented by the American Refugee Committee, Save the Children, International Organization on Migration (IOM), Comitato Collaborazione Medica (CCM) and The Health Support Organization (THESO).

Malaria

Dr. Isaac Mapeer, deputy head of Malaria Control Program at South Sudan's Ministry of Health told the press that a malaria outbreak in the country has resulted in more than 4,000 deaths since February 2017.

“There is a total of over 900,000 registered cases of malaria,” Mapeer said, adding that 4,073 deaths were recorded since February, while 2,000 deaths were reported in 2016.

In July, The UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said in its latest humanitarian bulletin that more than 76 percent of disease-related deaths in South Sudan are from malaria.

Source:

<http://outbreaknewstoday.com/south-sudan-oral-cholera-vaccination-campaign-concludes-malaria-deaths-top-4000/>

[Disclaimer]