

Myanmar Acute Watery Diarrhea / Cholera Outbreak

External Situation Report

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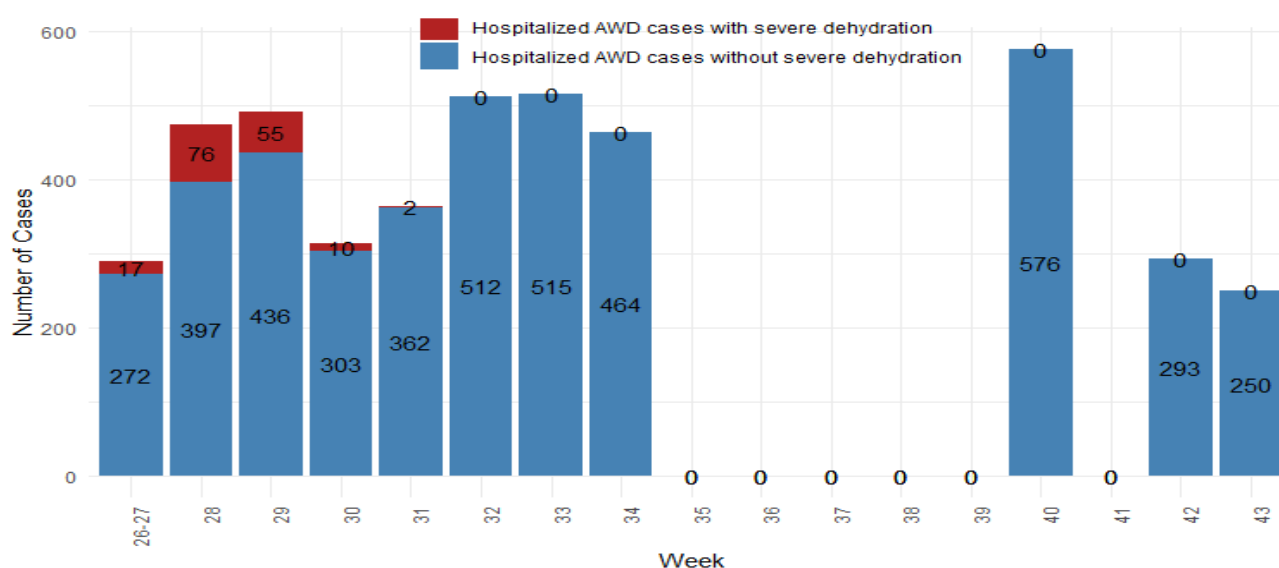
This report is based on the information available as of 4 November 2024.

Situation Overview

Yangon

- According to the ministerial authorities for health, in Yangon Region, a total of 250 hospitalized cases of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) were reported in the week 43 (20 to 27 October 2024). No severe cases have been reported ¹.
 - The weekly numbers of hospitalized AWD cases in the last few weeks are lower compared to the level observed in August (less than 300 cases in the recent weeks, while over 400 cases have been recorded in the weeks in August). However, the data indicate the pathogens causing AWD continues to circulate in Yangon.

Figure 1. Weekly Trend of AWD cases in Yangon region, Myanmar from week 26 to week 43 of 2024 (as of 27 October 2024)



* Weeks 26-27 covers 9 to 13 July - includes two days from week 28

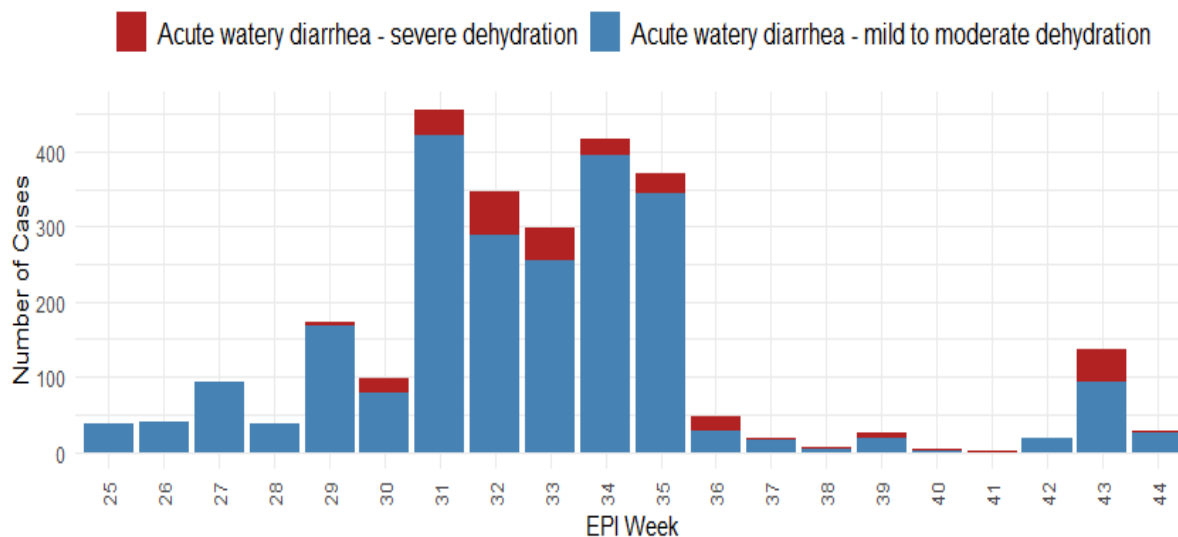
Rakhine

- According to early warning and response systems (EWARS) supported by the Health Cluster in Myanmar, in Rakhine:
 - The weekly number of AWD cases rose again to 137 in week 43 (20 to 26 October), from 18 cases in week 42 (13 to 19 October). In week 43, a total of 44 severe dehydration cases were reported. Among these 44 cases, 18 were reported in children under 5 years of age.

¹ Ministerial authorities for health, 29 October 2024

- In week 44 (27 October to 02 November), a total of 27 AWD cases, including two cases with severe dehydration, were reported.
- From week 25 to week 43 (16 June to 26 October), a total of 2,625 AWD cases were recorded.

Figure 2. Weekly Trend of AWD cases in Rakhine state, Myanmar from 16 June to 02 November 2024



Source: Health Cluster in Myanmar

Mon

- According to the ministerial authorities for health, a total of 5 hospitalized cases of AWD, including two severe cases, were reported in week 43 (20 to 27 October) in Mon State.
- Anecdotal information suggests AWD cases continue to occur in Ye Township, and have recently been reported in Paung Township for the first time.

Mandalay

- According to the ministerial authorities for health, in some townships of Mandalay Region, a total of 370 hospitalized cases of AWD including 218 severe cases were reported in week 43 (20 to 27 October). No fatalities were officially confirmed.
- Ongoing outbreak response includes chlorination, contact tracing, water sampling, and health education by ministerial authorities for health and local organizations in all seven Mandalay district townships.

Ayeyarwady

- According to the ministerial authorities for health, in some townships of Ayeyarwady Region, a total of 28 hospitalized AWD cases, including seven severe cases, were reported in week 43 (20 to 27 October).

Public Health Response

Vaccination

- Reactive vaccination campaign using oral cholera vaccine (OCV) was carried out in various areas in Myanmar.
 - Yangon: A total of 2,451,847 doses of were received to cover 34 townships of Yangon. Vaccination campaign started on 22 September, and was completed on 6 October, with 1,958,055 people vaccinated (as of 6 October).
 - Mon: Approximately 70,000 doses of OCV were re-allocated to three townships in Mon State, with approval from the International Coordinating Group (ICG) for vaccine provision. The vaccination in

three townships in Mon state started on 8 October and ended on 27 October with over 90 % coverage.

- Mandalay: A total of 373,294 doses of OCV has been approved for a reactive campaign for seven townships of Mandalay, using the remaining OCV doses available in the country. The campaign is scheduled to start on 14 November, and the preparation is underway.

Challenges

- The lack of real-time data and limited partners on the ground remains a challenge and hinders effective planning for the response. WHO continues requesting detailed AWD/cholera data to be shared as per the provision of the International Health Regulations (2005) to support effective response.
- The reactive OCV campaign can support the control efforts; however, effective and efficient public health measures are required in the longer-term, along with more sustained investments, both in health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).