

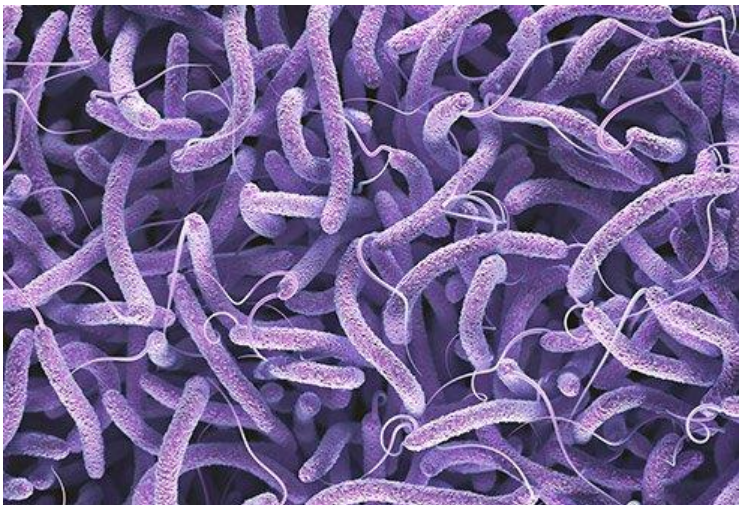
# Responding to a cholera outbreak

Karine Nordstrand, 16/3/2022



# Cholera: Some basics

- Acute diarrhoeal infection caused by the *Vibrio cholerae* bacteria
  - Between 1.3 and 4.0 million cases per year globally
- => 21 000 – 143 000 deaths



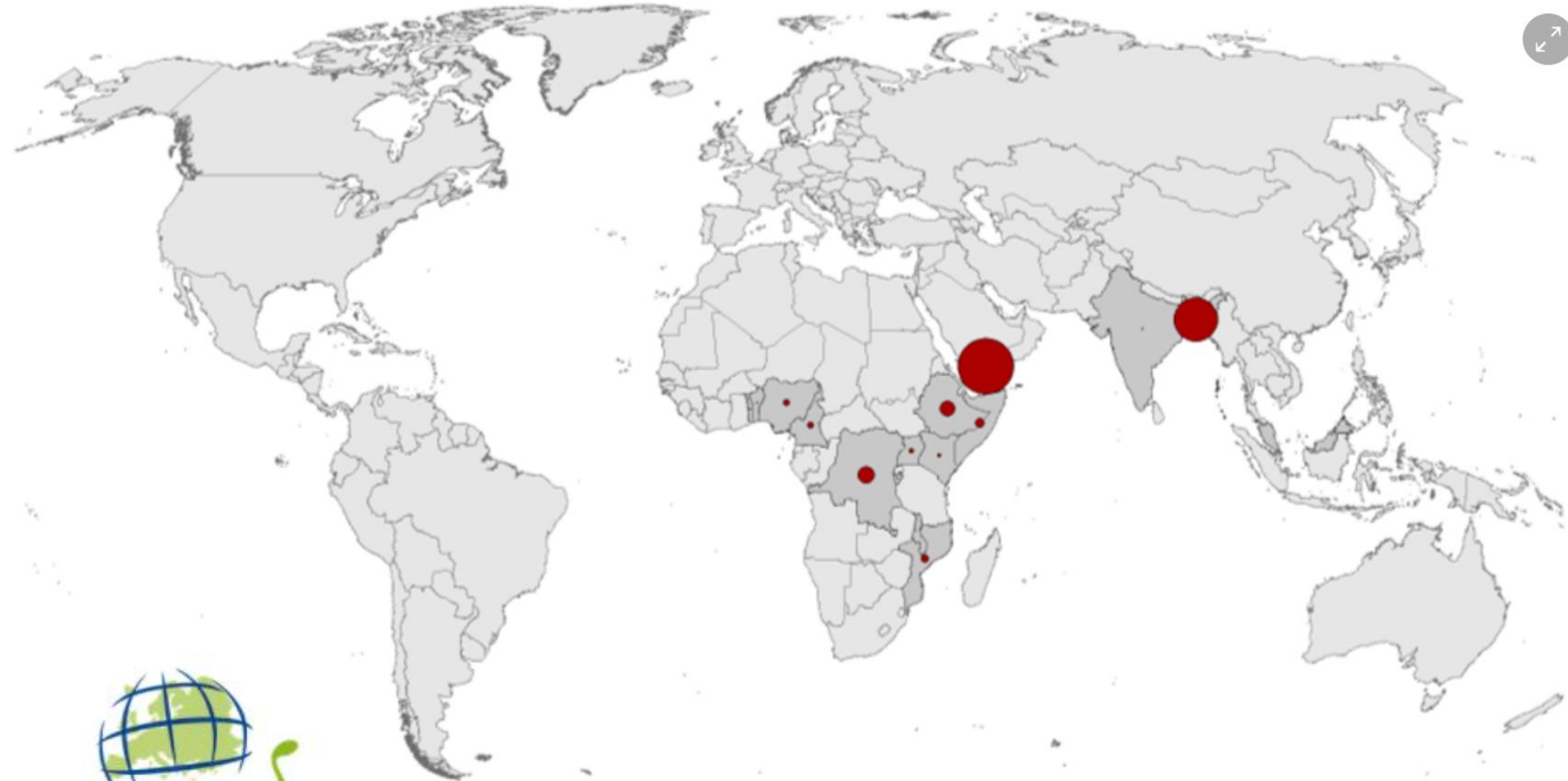
- Contaminated water supplies are the main source of infection

# Cholera pandemics

- First known cholera pandemic emerged from the Ganges Delta in 1817
- Seven cholera pandemics, last started in 1961
- New serogroup (derivative of El Tor) emerging in 1992 from Bangladesh



# Frequency and distribution



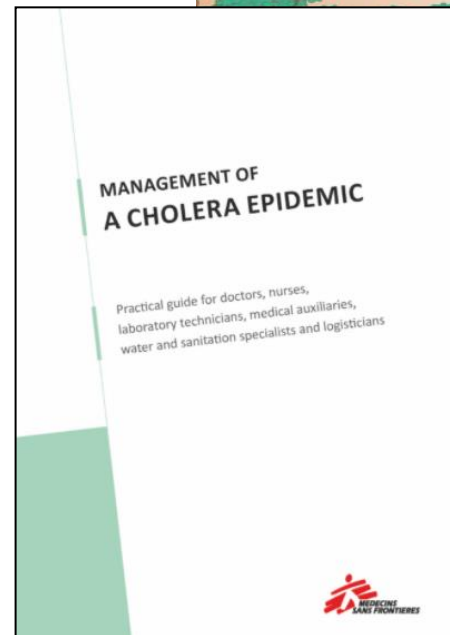
# Clinical features

- Incubation period < 5 days
- Most people infected show only mild symptoms, or none at all
- Main symptom is diarrhoea (rice water appearance)
- Vomiting often present
- Usually no fever



# Strategies for epidemic response

- Decentralized care!
- Multidisciplinary approach
  - Medical
  - Logistics/supply
  - Water/sanitation
  - Surveillance
  - Out-reach
  - Health promotion



# Cholera response, Haiti



# Vaccination

- In response to
  - Outbreaks
  - In high-risk settings
  - In endemic areas
- Currently 3 oral vaccines
- Incomplete protection



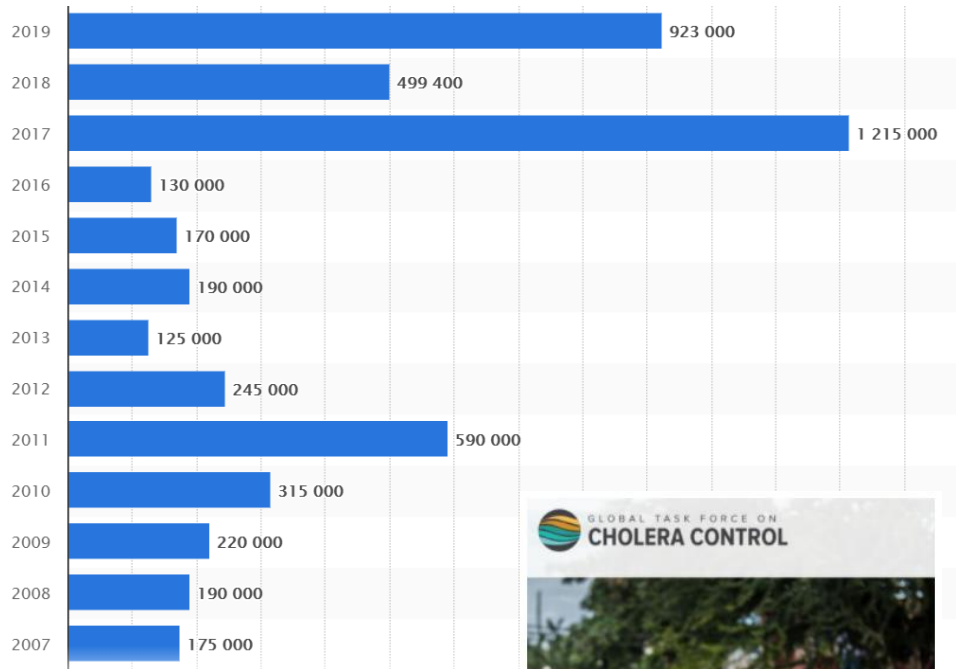


# Cholera prevention

- Enhanced surveillance
- Community engagement
- Use of basic drinking water services
- Use of basic sanitation services
- Quick access to treatment
- Immunization with Oral Cholera Vaccine
- Health promotion!



# Ending cholera?



- 2017: Global task force on cholera control
- Implementation of a global roadmap
- Goal of reducing cholera deaths by 90% before 2030



Thank you!

Questions?

[Karine.Nordstrand@oslo.msf.org](mailto:Karine.Nordstrand@oslo.msf.org)



...and a P.S.

