

# Cholera surveillance for health care workers

## Module 3



GLOBAL TASK FORCE ON  
**CHOLERA CONTROL**



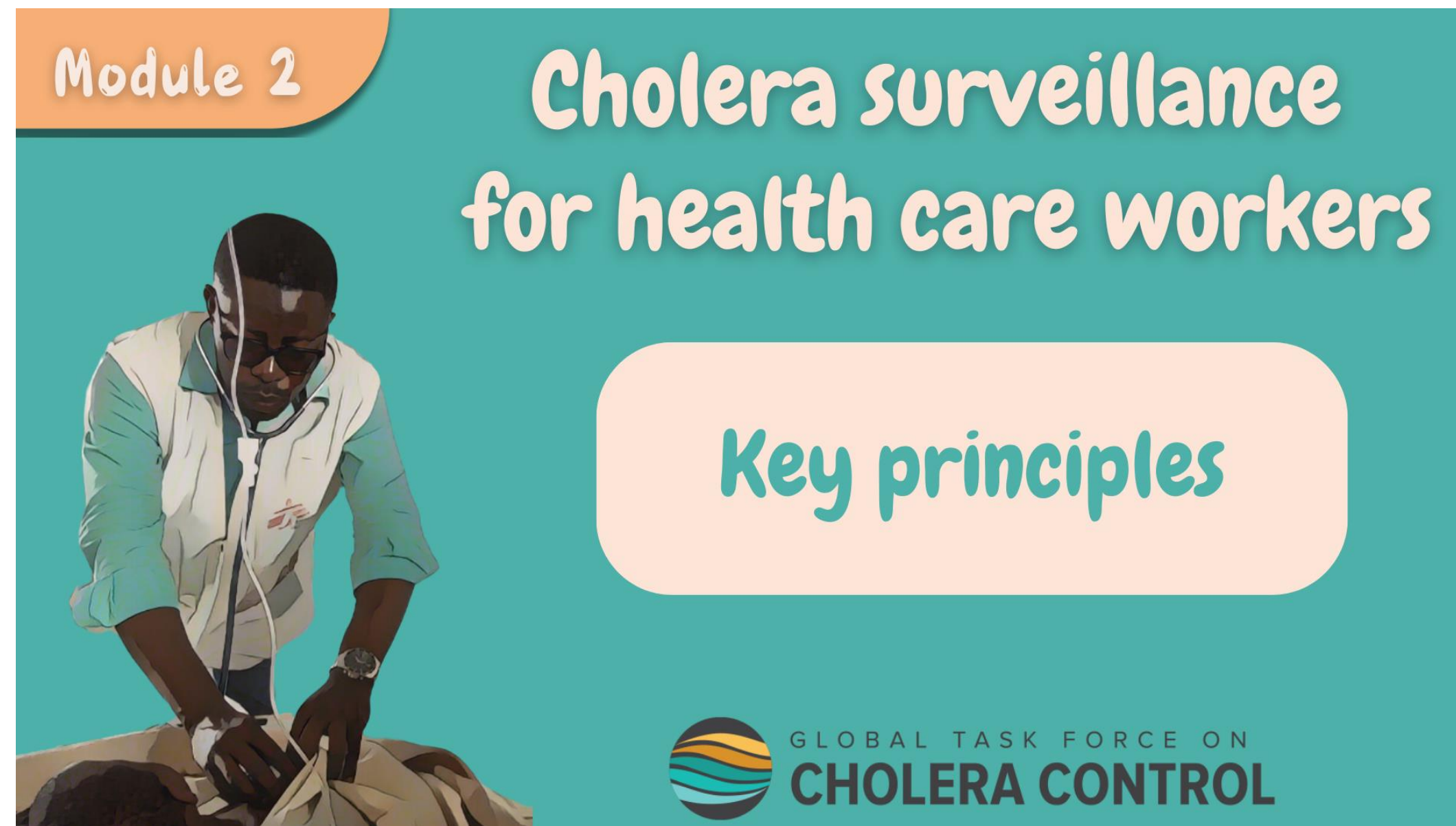
# Cholera surveillance for health care workers

Early detection  
of outbreaks



# Get ready for this module

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

The graphic is a cover for 'Module 2' titled 'Cholera surveillance for health care workers'. It features a teal background. In the top left, an orange curved banner contains the text 'Module 2'. To the left is an illustration of a male healthcare worker in a white coat and glasses, using a stethoscope on a patient. To the right, the title 'Cholera surveillance for health care workers' is written in large, white, rounded letters. Below the title, a light orange rounded rectangle contains the text 'Key principles' in teal. At the bottom right is the logo for the 'GLOBAL TASK FORCE ON CHOLERA CONTROL', which includes a stylized globe icon and the organization's name in white capital letters.

Module 2

## Cholera surveillance for health care workers

Key principles

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# What will you learn?

- ➔ **How** to implement surveillance for early detection 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 early detection

When there is **NO cholera outbreak** in a geographic area

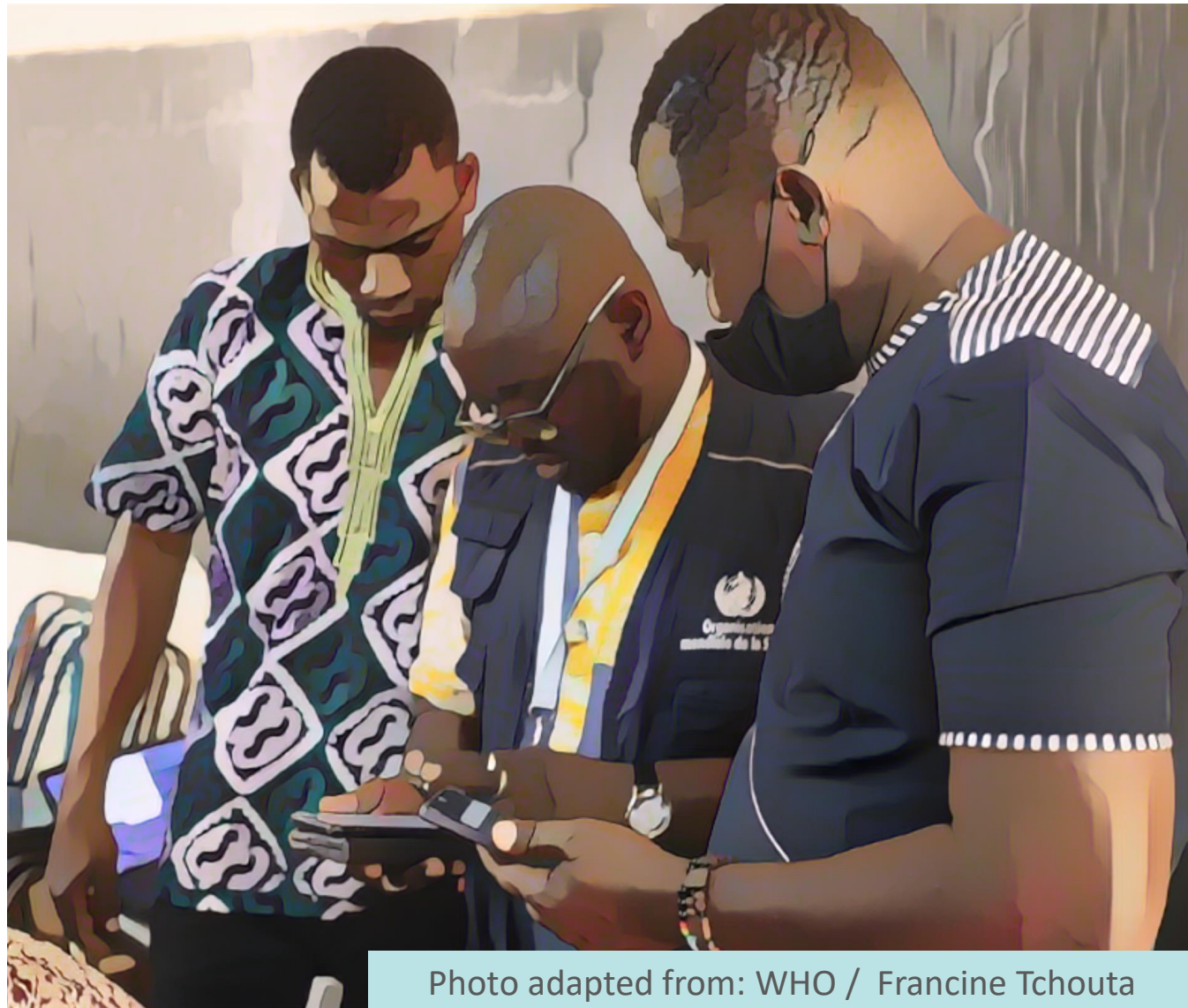


Photo adapted from: WHO / Francine Tchouta

► 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 detect a cholera outbreak

# Surveillance objective

**Early detection** aims to permit **rapid implementation of response measures** to reduce spread and limit the number of cases and deaths

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

- As long as no cholera outbreak is detected
- If an outbreak is detected, surveillance evolves



**Learn about surveillance in other situations in Modules 4 & 5**





Patients with  
suspected cholera



# Case definition

## Patients with suspected cholera

- ➔ Patients aged 2 years or older with AWD and severe dehydration  
or
- ➔ Patients aged 2 years or older who died from AWD



Learn how to recognize AWD & severe dehydration in Module 2

- ➔ Various diseases can cause AWD, especially in young children

## Criteria on age & severe dehydration

- **More likely** that patients with suspected cholera have cholera
- **Avoids** triggering frequent **false alarms** for cholera
- Makes **surveillance** and testing for early detection **more efficient**





## Testing for cholera



# Testing for early detection

**All patients with suspected cholera are tested**  
**Critical to determine whether or not cholera is circulating**

## If RDTs are available

➡ RDTs are used to **triage** samples for laboratory testing

- **ALL patients** with suspected cholera are **tested by RDT**
- Samples from **ALL patients with RDT+ results** are sent to a laboratory for **confirmatory testing**

## If RDTs are NOT available

➡ Samples are **not triaged** for laboratory testing

- Samples from **ALL patients** with suspected cholera are sent to a laboratory for **confirmatory testing**



# Reporting cholera



# Reporting cholera

If a patient with suspected cholera is seen at your facility, the standard information collected on this patient is **reported** to the health authority **on the same day**

➡ Reporting within a day is essential not to delay the detection of an outbreak

**Time is key!**



**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**)
- ➡ To report, use the channels & mechanisms set at your facility (e.g., reporting focal point)



# Wrap up

- ➡ In geographic areas where there is **NO cholera outbreak**, surveillance is for early detection
- ➡ Patients with suspected cholera are aged **2 years or older with AWD and severe dehydration** (or died from AWD)
- ➡ **All** patients with suspected cholera are **tested** for cholera
- ➡ **Standard information** on any patient with suspected cholera is **reported within 24 hours**
- ➡ If no patient with suspected cholera was seen on a given week, this is reported weekly





# Question 1



- For the early detection of a cholera outbreak, a patient with suspected cholera is any patient:
- a) Aged  $\geq 2$  years old with AWD
  - b) With AWD and severe dehydration
  - c) Aged  $\geq 2$  years old with AWD and severe dehydration
  - d) With AWD

# Question 1 – Answer



■ For the early detection of a cholera outbreak, a patient with suspected cholera is any patient:

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



## Question 2



► **For the early detection of 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



► **For the early detection of 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



► **For the early detection of a cholera outbreak, any patient with AWD is tested for cholera:**

- a) True
- b) False



## Question 3 – Answer



► For the early detection of a cholera outbreak, any patient with AWD is tested for cholera:

- a) True
- b) False**

Together we can  
#Endcholera



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