



## **Cholera outbreak in Homa Bay County, Kenya, 2015.**

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## Case Study



## Cholera outbreak in Homa Bay County, Kenya, 2015

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**Abstract**

Cholera is among the re-emerging diseases in Kenya. Beginning in December 2014, a persistent outbreak occurred involving 29 out of the 47 counties. Homa Bay County in Western Kenya was among the first counties to report cholera cases from January to April 2015. This case study is based on an outbreak investigation conducted by FELTP residents in Homa Bay County in February 2015. It simulates an outbreak investigation including laboratory confirmation, active case finding, descriptive epidemiology and implementation of control measures. This case study is designed for the training of basic level field epidemiology trainees or any other health care workers working in public health-related fields. It can be administered in 2-3 hours. Used as adjunct training material, the case study provides the trainees with competencies in investigating an outbreak in preparation for the actual real-life experience of such outbreaks.

## How to use this case study

**General instructions:** this case study should be used as adjunct training material for novice epidemiology trainees to reinforce the concepts taught in prior lectures. The case study is ideally taught by a facilitator in groups of about 20 participants. Participants are to take turns reading the case study, usually a paragraph per student. The facilitator guides the discussion on possible responses to questions. The facilitator may make use of flip charts to illustrate certain points. Additional instructor's notes for facilitation are coupled with each question in the instructor's guide to aid facilitation.

**Audience:** this case study was developed for novice field epidemiology students. These participants are commonly health care workers working in the county departments of health whose background may be as medical doctors, nurses, environmental health officers or laboratory scientists who work in public health-related fields. Most have a health science or biology background.

**Prerequisites:** before using this case study, participants should have received lectures on disease surveillance and outbreak investigation.

**Materials needed:** flash drive, flip charts, markers, computers with MS Excel

**Level of training and associated public health activity:** Novice – Outbreak investigation

**Time required:** 2-3 hours

**Language:** English

## Case study material

- [Download the case study student guide \(PDF - 1.69 MB\)](#)
- Request the case study facilitator guide.

## Competing interests

The authors declare no competing interest.

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