

**Treatment procedure for cholera and acute water diarrhoea in Ethiopia.
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183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
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Cholera/AWD Treatment Procedure



World Health
Organization

■ Treat the patients

Summary of the treatment

- Rehydrate with ORS or IV solution depending on the severity
- Maintain hydration and monitor frequently the hydration status
- Give antibiotics for severe cholera cases and for shigella cases

Rehydrate depending on severity

Is the patient dehydrated?

- The patient is losing a lot of fluids because of diarrhoea and vomiting.
- Does she/he have two or more of the following signs?
The lack of water in her/his body results in:
 - sunken eyes
 - absence of tears
 - dry mouth and tongue
 - the patient is thirsty and drinks eagerly
 - the skin pinch goes back slowly



IF NO
THEN

There is NO dehydration:
Give Oral Rehydration
Salt (Box 1)

BOX 1. THERE IS NO SIGN OF DEHYDRATION

When there is NO sign of dehydration: give ORS solution after each stool

- Child less than 2 years old : 50–100 ml (1/4–1/2 cup) ORS solution. Up to approximately 1/2 litre a day.
- Child between 2 and 9 years old : 100–200 ml. Up to approximately 1 litre a day.
- Patient of 10 years of age or more as much as wanted, up to approximately 2 litres a day.



If YES, check if the dehydration is very severe

Is the dehydration very severe?

When dehydration is very severe in addition to the above mentioned signs:

- The patient is lethargic, unconscious or floppy
- She/he is unable to drink
- Her/his radial pulse is weak
- The skin pinch goes back very slowly

IF NO
THEN

There is some dehydration:

- Give Oral Rehydration Salt in the amount recommended in Box 2
- Nasogastric tubes can be used for rehydration when ORS solution increases vomiting and nausea or when the patient cannot drink
- Monitor the patient frequently

BOX 2. THERE IS SOME SIGN OF DEHYDRATION

Approximate amount of ORS solution to give in the first 4 hours

Age	Less than 4 months	4–11 months	12–23 months	2–4 years	5–14 years	15 years or older
Weight	Less than 5 kg	5–7.9 kg	8–10.9 kg	11–15.9 kg	16–29.9 kg	30 kg or more
ORS solution in ml	200–400	400–600	600–800	800–1200	1200–2200	2200–4000

IF YES THEN

There is severe dehydration

- Put an IV drip to start intravenous rehydration
- In case this is not possible, rehydrate with ORS
- In any case, refer the patient to the higher level and rehydrate as shown in Box 3

BOX 3. THERE IS SEVERE DEHYDRATION

Give IV drips of Ringer Lactate or if not available cholera saline (or normal saline)

- 100 ml/kg in three-hour period (in 6 hours for children aged less than 1 year)
- Start rapidly (30ml/kg within 30 min) and then slow down.

Total amount per day: 200 ml/kg during the first 24 hours



80% of the cases can be treated using only
Oral Rehydration Salt (ORS)

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WHICH ANTIBIOTICS CAN BE GIVEN?

Cholera

Doxycycline	single dose	300 mg
or tetracycline		12.5 mg/kg 4 times a day for 3 days
Young children:	erythromycin liquid	12.5 mg/kg 4 times a day for 3 days

Note: There is increasing resistance to doxycycline, tetracycline and TMP-SMX.