

# 3 Bloody diarrhoea

## Transmission

- Contaminated food and water with human waste (stools)
- From person to person
- Very easy to transmit

## Symptoms

- Diarrhoea with blood, accompanied by fever and abdominal cramps and/or dehydration
- Worse in young children and elderly people
- Needs to be professionally treated in a health facility

## Prevention

- ➔ Clean water (good water sources, clean water container in household)
- ➔ Good sanitation facilities (good latrines or defecation facilities)
- ➔ Clean food

- ➔ Proper hygiene (handwashing with soap)
- ➔ Good shelter
- ➔ Continuing breastfeeding
- ➔ Health promotion

## Vulnerable people

- Children under 5
- Older children and adults who are malnourished
- Severely dehydrated and seriously ill patients
- Elderly people

## In case of epidemic

- ➔ Early detection of patients with bloody diarrhoea and referral to health facilities
- ➔ Provision of clean or treated water
- ➔ Provision of good sanitation facilities
- ➔ Rapid burial of people who die from bloody diarrhoea

- ➔ Washing of dead bodies should be followed by hygienic measures and handwashing with soap
- ➔ Oral rehydration
- ➔ Health promotion
- ➔ Encouragement of breastfeeding

## Volunteer actions

See the following **action tools** for more information on what actions to take against bloody diarrhoea:

31	29	32	33	2	3	7	8	16	30
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## Community-based assessment questions

Make a map of the community and mark the information you gather on the map.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When did the epidemic start?</li> <li>• How many people live in the affected community?</li> <li>• How many children under 5 years of age live in the affected community?</li> <li>• Who and where are the vulnerable people?</li> <li>• How many people have died from bloody diarrhoea and where?</li> <li>• How many people have fallen sick with bloody diarrhoea and where?</li> <li>• Are there any health services and where?</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What water sources are available and where?</li> <li>• Is the drinking water clean?</li> <li>• What sanitation facilities and communal latrines are available?</li> <li>• Do people have enough food?</li> <li>• What is the children's nutritional situation?</li> <li>• How common is breastfeeding?</li> <li>• Is there a health education promotion in place?</li> <li>• What are the habits, practices and beliefs regarding hygiene in the community?</li> </ul> |
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