This checklist includes examples of cholera surveillance testing activities and best practices countries should consider when requesting cholera diagnostic support to Gavi. This checklist should guide countries implementing cholera testing surveillance programmes and is based on the Global Taskforce on Cholera Control's (GTFCC) Assessment of cholera surveillance Interim Guidance Document 2024.[[1]](#endnote-1)

Table 1. Implementation readiness checklist for Cholera diagnostic support based on current GTFCC guidelines and pilot implementation key learnings.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Function | Examples and best practices | Current Status | Details | Contact in charge |
| Strategy and guidelines | * National cholera plan (preventative and outbreak response)
* Health facility-based surveillance, community-based surveillance, and event-based surveillance should be routinely integrated to detect cholera cases
* Outbreak definition, alert and how to confirm an outbreak.
 |  |  |  |
| * Cholera case definition and case investigation strategies (GTFCC guidelines)
	+ Case investigation form
 |  |  |  |
| * Standardized testing strategy and algorithm (GTFCC guidelines)
 |  |  |  |
| * Laboratory capacity and cholera Health-facility definition and list
	+ RDT receiving facilities (eg. L1-L2 facilities)
	+ Reference laboratory (PCR and culture capable)
	+ Surveillance units and rapid response teams
 |  |  |  |
| * Cholera surveillance guideline and SOP
	+ i.e. reporting requirements and timelines
	+ data verification and field investigation recommendation
	+ data analysis and aggregation instructions
 |  |  |  |
| Operational considerations (distribution and logistics) | * Standard operating procedures for importing diagnostic tests.
	+ Defined UNICEF SD point of contact
	+ Importation process and waivers
 |  |  |  |
| * Procurement planning and budgeting (>12 months calendar)
	+ Clear budget allocation
	+ Number of receiving units, and method for determining number of RDTs per unit
 |  |  |  |
| * Stock monitoring and supply phasing
	+ Monitoring stock at unit, distribution, national level
	+ Defined UNICEF SD point of contact
	+ Written guidance to accompany the first shipments to help orient people regarding use case reporting/ reordering.
 |  |  |  |
| * Storage optimization (distribution centers) and integrated logistics with existing medical supply chains
	+ Communication to receiving units so they are aware of incoming RDTs.
 |  |  |  |
| * Guidelines for waste management and restocking
	+ Shelf-life documentation and wastage prevention
	+ Restocking request process
 |  |  |  |
| Test Use | * Test function and use-case description (GTFCC guidelines)
	+ RDT for case identification and screening
	+ PCR for confirmation
	+ PCR/culture for confirmation and clinical management
 |  |  |  |
| * Job aids and training efforts
	+ Instructions for use (in local language)
	+ In-person trainings (i.e. integrated with other events/workshops.
 |  |  |  |
| * Reference laboratory network capacity and definition
 |  |  |  |
| * Sample collection, storage and transport guidance
 |  |  |  |
| * Supply list and quality management systems (e.g. reagents and consumables needed for testing)
 |  |  |  |
| Data reporting and dissemination | * Minimum standard case-based data to be collected (i.e. template cholera case report form)
 |  |  |  |
| * Testing indicators (GTFCC)
	+ Adherence to testing strategy (RDT, Culture and/or PCR)
	+ Timeliness of sample receipt by the laboratory
 |  |  |  |
| * Integrated RDT test result reporting with existing operational information systems (DSR, EWARS, lab, or other)
	+ How will RDT test results be incorporated into existing national surveillance system?
 |  |  |  |
| * Data interpretation and monitoring indicators (i.e. adherence to testing algorithm)
 |  |  |  |
| * Data reporting and dissemination
 |  |  |  |
| * Data use and evidence-based decision making (i.e. input into immunization plan)
 |  |  |  |

1. https://www.gtfcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/gtfcc-assessment-of-cholera-surveillance-en.pdf [↑](#endnote-ref-1)