

INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

TAJIKISTAN: TYPHOID OUTBREAK

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This Bulletin is being issued as an update on activities and the information available at this time.

The Situation

The Ministry of Health in Tajikistan has confirmed that there has been an outbreak of typhoid in Dushanbe city, the capital of Tajikistan.

745 patients have been admitted in four hospitals in Dushanbe, for suspected typhoid. 256 of these patients have been confirmed to have the illness.

The outbreak is thought to have started two weeks ago in the Frunze district of Dushanbe city. It is believed that a major piped water source was contaminated and caused the illness. The Sanitary Epidemiological Service reacted quickly treating the source with chlorine and restoring quality. There is still ongoing monitoring of the quality of supplies.

The Ministry of Health mobilized almost 500 personnel to detect new cases of cholera and raise health awareness in communities affected of the risk of cholera. Health workers went door to door talking with residents.

Tajikistan's first deputy minister called an emergency meeting on Tuesday 21 October to coordinate the humanitarian response to the outbreak. The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, supported by the Federation, has been part of this action.

Red Cross/Red Crescent Action

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and the Federation supplied 500 pieces of soap from Federation stocks to five hospitals of Dushanbe (100 pieces for each hospital). Chlorine tablets from the same emergency stock will also be distributed. In addition the national society has supplied 20 containers of liquid soap to five hospitals (four for each).

Red Crescent volunteers will tour homes in two city districts – Frunze and Centre – to raise awareness of the dangers of typhoid. The volunteers will explain to people better hygiene practices and distribute 580 leaflets on typhoid and its prevention. In addition, a more detailed booklet on typhoid is being prepared.

Other organizations are providing antibiotic sensitivity testing kits (Merlin), food for patients in hospitals (WFP), emergency stocks of drugs (WHO), drugs and infusions (PSF).

The next coordination meeting will be on Monday 27 October in the WHO office. The Federation will attend.

For a full description of the National Society profile, see **www.ifrc.org**

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

*For support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at **<http://www.ifrc.org>**.*

For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.