

Three webinars coming up!

1. Quality of Care Network – Friday 9 February @ 10h00 CET (GMT+1)

The [Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal and Newborn Health](#) (Quality of Care Network), is organizing a webinar on ‘Cleaner hospitals for better quality of care: the example of Ethiopia’s Clean & Safe Health Facility Initiative’. See the details of all previous Quality of Care Network’s webinars [here](#) and register for the webinar [here](#).

2. WHO Global Learning Laboratory for Quality UHC - Wednesday 14 February @ 15h00 CET (GMT+1)

The [WHO GLL for Quality UHC](#) is hosting its 5th webinar: *Compassion – the heart of quality people-centered health services*. This 90-minute webinar explores the role of compassion as a critical pillar of delivering quality people-centered health services. Perspectives and case studies from across the world are examined. Examples are shared on how compassion has been incorporated at different levels and in different types of health systems to catalyze change for achieving greater quality. Key challenges in making the case and acting for compassionate health services are explored. An interactive global discussion allows participants to share their wisdom. Click [here](#) to register for the event.

3. WHO/UNICEF WASH in HCF Action Plan: Global update - Tuesday 20 February @ 15h00 CET (GMT+1)

WHO and UNICEF are holding a 90-minute webinar to provide a series of updates on recent activities related to the Global Action Plan on WASH in HCF. More details will be circulated before the webinar. Click [here](#) to join the event.

Recent meetings and publications

International meeting on Sepsis (Geneva, January 2017)

On 16-17 January, WHO hosted an international meeting on sepsis convening over 50 experts and health staff to raise the profile of sepsis and implement effective prevention and treatment efforts. Sepsis affects as many as 30 million people annually worldwide and basic WASH in HCF is a key component of the strategy to combat it. To learn more about WHO’s efforts on sepsis, visit: <http://www.who.int/servicedeliverysafety/areas/sepsis/en/>.

“Expanding WASH in health care facilities worldwide” roundtable (Washington DC, 18 January 2018)

The Global Health Council in collaboration with the U.S. Water Partnership and Global Water Challenge co-convened an action-oriented roundtable discussion of approximately 40 experts and practitioners in health care and water disciplines on January 18 at the Pan American Health Organization in Washington, DC. The purpose of this session was to share strategies for successfully accelerating progress on WASH in healthcare facilities programming and to discuss the most promising paths to scale-up impact. Following the meeting, the organisers will explore how best to map “who is doing what” and follow-up with a session focused on innovative financing in Spring 2018.

New WHO publication: *Safe management of wastes from health-care activities: A summary*

This new document highlights the key aspects of safe health-care waste management in order to guide policy-makers, practitioners and facility managers to improve such services in health-care facilities. It is based on the comprehensive WHO handbook [Safe management of wastes from health-care activities](#) (WHO, 2014), and also takes into consideration relevant World Health Assembly resolutions, other UN documents and emerging global and national developments on water, sanitation and hygiene and infection prevention and control. It is [available in English and Russian](#) and the French version will be available in the next month.

A snapshot of country activities

Mali: National workshop to scale up WASH in HCF (Bamako, 1-2 February)

A two-day national workshop was held last week in Mali as part of national and regional efforts to improve WASH in HCF. The workshop marked the end of a 3-year project funded by the Hilton Foundation with WHO, WaterAid, CDC and the Government of Mali working in two districts (Ségou and Mopti) and provided an opportunity to discuss learnings from the project and opportunities for scale up. A second project (started in late 2016) is ongoing with WHO, World Vision, CDC and the Government of Mali in Mopti and Koulikoro. A meeting report will be shared soon.



Bangladesh: First national workshop on WASH in HCF (Dhaka, 13 December 2017)

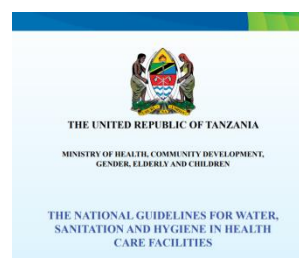
The first national workshop on WASH in HCF in Bangladesh was held in Dhaka on 13 December 2017 and attended by 115 WASH and health stakeholders. The workshop was organized by the Government of Bangladesh with UNICEF, WHO, World Bank, Terre des hommes, WaterAid, Care and Plan International. Bangladesh does not currently have a specific strategy and action plan on WASH in HCF and this was identified as a gap that must be addressed immediately. A follow up meeting is being held this month to form a framework for a national action plan. Read more about the meeting outcomes [here](#).

Bangladesh: WASH FIT deployed in Cox's Bazar to assess 200 health care facilities (January 2018)

A rapid assessment of WASH services in nearly 200 health care facilities in Cox's Bazar was conducted in January. [mWater](#), who developed the WASH FIT Digital platform, were deployed to support the assessment and help train enumerators. A short assessment form was created using indicators from the [mWater Indicator Library](#) and used to rapidly assess the facilities, many of which are temporary structures with limited services. This is the first experience of using the indicators in an emergency context. More updates will be coming soon.

Tanzania: launches new standards on WASH in health care facilities.

In December 2017, Tanzania launched their new *National Guidelines for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Health Care Facilities*. Read the standards [here](#), and watch Dr Ibrahim Kabole, Country Director for WaterAid Tanzania talking about the importance of the standards for achieving universal health coverage [here](#).



Cambodia & Ethiopia: Achieving quality universal health coverage through better water, sanitation and hygiene for health care facilities: a focus on Cambodia and Ethiopia.

WASH services in HCF are a necessary prerequisite to achieving quality universal health coverage yet little evidence is available on the integration between quality of care and WASH in HCF efforts at the country level. This document looks at how mechanisms in Cambodia and Ethiopia support integration and how changes in attitudes and behaviours can be made at the national, regional and facility level to sustain improvements. Read the report [here](#).

Other upcoming events

WASH Futures conference, Brisbane 5-9 March.

The WASH Futures conference, hosted by The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the International WaterCentre (IWC) and the Australian WASH Reference Group, will convene in Brisbane, Australia from 5 – 9 March 2018. The conference comprises two days of conference-style sessions, with parallel streams addressing specific themes relating to the conference theme “Collaboration for universal WASH”, followed by three days of training and workshops on emergent WASH topics. There will



be a one-day workshop on **Thursday 8 March** hosted by WaterAid, WHO and UNICEF on WASH in HCF, which will cover monitoring, WASH FIT and WASH FIT Digital and look at how to take a 'systems strengthening' perspective and embed WASH in HCF within health priorities. For more information about the conference, visit www.washfutures.com.

Papers and other reading

- Freedman et al. 2017. [Cost analysis of the implementation of portable handwashing and drinking water stations in rural Kenyan health facilities](#). Journal of Water Sanitation and Hygiene for Development.
- Kohler et al. 2017. [WASH and gender in health care facilities: The uncharted territory](#). Healthcare for Women International.
- Bohren et al. 2017. [Defining quality of care during childbirth from the perspectives of Nigerian and Ugandan women: A qualitative study](#). International Journal of Gynaecology and Obstetrics
- Moffa et al., 2017. [A systematic review of nosocomial waterborne infections in neonates and mothers](#). International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health 220: 1199-1206.
- Li et al., 2017. [A systematic review of waterborne infections from nontuberculous mycobacteria in health care facility water systems](#). International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health 220: 611-620.
- Cronk and Bartram, 2018. [Environmental conditions in health care facilities in low- and middle-income countries: Coverage and inequalities](#). International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijheh.2018.01.004>.
- WaterAid Canada on HuffPost, Jan 2018: [Clean Water Is The Only Charge For Giving Birth In This Delivery Room](#)
- WaterAid, January 2018. [Engaging healthcare workers to prevent and control infections in healthcare centres in Malawi](#).



WASH in health care facilities knowledge portal: www.washinhcf.org

If you would like to share any updates related to your work on WASH in health care facilities in future newsletters, please email washinhcf@who.int.



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