Where cholera vaccination should be initiated in Nepal, if at all?

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Although vaccination against all agents seems a hard to achieve goal following current earthquake disaster in Nepal [1]. I have following opinion for initiating Cholera vaccination regardless of earthquake status in Nepal. Cholera is endemic in Nepal [2]. If cholera vaccination were to be carried out, it should be for out-of-reach population who has limited access to medical supplies and expertise like hilly mid-western region of Nepal where the disease has recorded history of high death tolls in the past. One such example is inhabitants of Jajarkot. This region is well known for its scarcity of water resources and prevalence of poor sanitary practices due to lack of public awareness [3]. People here are forced to drink germ contaminated water [4]. In 2009, above 5,000 cases and above 200 deaths due to Cholera occurred during an outbreak in this region and surrounding areas [5]. In such a place a pre-emptive use of vaccine seems amenable. But in urban areas a reactive use of vaccine after outbreak should be ok since we have built comparatively sufficient experience and capacities to counter such diseases in these areas [2, 5].

References


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