Flow chart for cholera case management

Suspected cholera case

In areas where a cholera outbreak has not been declared: any patient ≥2 years presenting with acute watery diarrhea and severe dehydration or dying from acute watery diarrhea

In areas where a cholera outbreak is declared: any person presenting with or dying from acute watery diarrhea

Step 1
Does patient fit case definition?

- Yes → Assess for shock or severe dehydration
- No → Manage in OPD/IPD

Assess for shock or severe dehydration

Shock/severe dehydration: (Plan C)
Patient has one or more danger sign:
- Lethargic or unconscious
- Absent or weak pulse
- Respiratory distress

OR at least 2 of the following:
- Not able to drink or drinks poorly
- Skin pinch goes back very slowly
- Sunken eyes

Yes → **Give IV Ringer's lactate (Plan C)**
(Consider dextrose bolus in paediatric patients for

<1 year of age: (over 6 hours)	>1 year of age: (over 3 hours)
1st 60 min: 30ml/kg	1st 30 min: 30ml/kg
Next 5 hrs: 70ml/kg	Next 2.5 hrs: 70ml/kg

Reassess frequently (Every 15-30 min)

Reassess hydration status
- Awake AND
- Able to drink AND
- Improved pulse strength

Yes → Give ORS (Plan B)

No → **Some dehydration: (Plan B)**
Patient has at least 2 of the following:
- Irritable or restless
- Sunken eyes
- Rapid pulse
- Thirsty (drinks eagerly)
- Skin pinch goes back slowly

Yes → **Give ORS (Plan B) and observe for 4 hours – see table below**
OR can also calculate at 75 ml/kg over 4 hours
+ ongoing losses (see Plan A)

For first 4 hours:

Age	<4 months	4-11 months	12-23 months	2-4 years	5-14 years	>15 years
Wt. (kg)	<5	5-7.9	8-10.9	11-15.9	16-29.9	>30
ORS (ml)	200-400	400-600	600-800	800-1200	1200-2200	2200-4000

Reassess frequently
(At least every hour)

Reassess hydration status

• Severe dehydration OR • Severe vomiting	• Awake AND • Able to drink AND • Improved pulse strength

Yes → Give IV Ringer's lactate (Plan C)

Yes → Give ORS (Plan A)

No → **No dehydration: (Plan A)**
- Awake and alert
- Normal pulse
- Normal thirst
- Eyes not sunken
- Skin pinch normal

Yes → **Give ORS (Plan A) – see table below**
Observe in observation or Plan A area for 4 hours

For first 4 hours:

Age	<2 years	2-9 years	≥10 years
ORS (ml)	50-100	100-200	As much as wanted

Consider discharge if:
- Has no signs of dehydration
- Is able to take ORS without vomiting
- Has no watery stools for 4 hours
- Is able to walk without assistance
- Is passing urine

Antibiotics for severe dehydration cases ONLY

	First-line	Alternative
Adults (including pregnant women)	doxycycline 300 mg as a single dose	azithromycin PO 1g as a single dose
Children < 12 years old	doxycycline 2-4 mg/kg single dose	azithromycin PO 20mg/kg single dose