



Research and Evaluation Activities

by

**Research Training and Management
International (RTMI)**

Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



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- **A Ring Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Intervention to Reduce Cholera in Hotspots in Bangladesh (February 2022 to May 2025)**

Client: The Johns Hopkins University

RTM International and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHU) is jointly conducting the study titled “A Ring Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Intervention to Reduce Cholera in Hotspots in Bangladesh”. Cholera-Hospital-Based-Intervention-for-7-Days (Chobi means “picture” in Bangla), a WASH intervention promotes hand washing with soap and water treatment to cholera patients and their household members through a pictorial module and mobile health messages. Building on this previous CHoBI7 program, targeted WASH intervention has been developed and evaluated that aims to deliver in a ring around cholera patients’ households in Dhaka, Bangladesh to reduce cholera and cholera transmission among this high-risk population. To evaluate the efficacy of the targeted CHoBI7 intervention in reducing cholera infections among household members of cholera patients during their one-week high risk period after the presentation of the index cholera patient, a randomized controlled trial (RCT) will be conducted where the CHoBI7 intervention will be compared to the standard message given in Bangladesh to diarrhea patients at discharge on ORS use. Diarrhoea patients presenting with three or more loose stools over a 24 hour period will be recruited from both public and private sector hospitals (like Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Mugda General Hospital, Bangladesh Sishu Hospital, Institute of Child and Mother Health (ICMH) and NGO/Private sector Hospitals) in Dhaka City and there might be also a scope to make future collaboration with icddr,b. Participants will include cholera patients and individuals residing within close proximity to cholera patients, government officials in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and health facility staff and Directors. Cholera patients will be recruited from health facilities in Dhaka, Bangladesh. For the in-depth interviews and focus group discussions, only 12 years of age and older participants will be included. For the Intervention Planning Workshops, only adults 18 years of age or older will be included.

- **Testing a scalable model of the Cholera Hospital-Based Intervention (February 2022 to June 2025)**

Client: The Johns Hopkins University

RTM International and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHU) is jointly conducting the study titled “Testing a scalable model of the Cholera Hospital-Based Intervention”. RTM International is the in-country (Bangladesh) lead organization for the project implementation and will be responsible for overall project management, supervise in-country project team members, data collection, data management and quality assurance. The CHoBI7 WASH mHealth program significantly decreased diarrhea and stunting among young children, and lead to sustained handwashing with soap practices and improved stored drinking water quality during the 12-month surveillance period in urban setting in Dhaka, Bangladesh. No evidence for impact of intervention in a rural setting. Therefore, it has become essential to scale the achievements: (1) To tailor the CHoBI7 program for delivery in rural health facilities and market test the CHoBI7 Program to determine the feasibility of providing a WASH package in rural settings through formative research and engagement of key stakeholders and (2) To evaluate the effectiveness of delivering the CHoBI7 program in community clinics, district hospitals, tertiary hospitals, and sub-district health complexes in catchment areas of these facilities in terms of increases in WASH behaviors and decreases in diarrheal disease by conducting a randomized controlled trial (RCT). This study will be divided into two phases: (1) Formative Research Phase (12 Months) and (2) Intervention Implementation and Evaluation Phase (18 Months). Study activities will be conducted at Mugda General Hospital, community clinics, district hospitals, tertiary hospitals, sub-district health complexes, International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh Dhaka Hospital, and General Referral Hospital complexes in Dhaka, Narayanganj, Munshiganj, and Manikganj Districts of

Bangladesh. Participants will include diarrhea patient household members, health providers, and government officials, beneficiaries and health workers. Children from newborns to 17 years of age will be included in this study.

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