

Cholera outbreak in Cameroon 'worst in 20 years'

September 6 2010

(AP) -- UNICEF says more than 300 people have died in the West African nation of Cameroon from the country's worst cholera outbreak in 20 years.

UNICEF said Monday that more than 4,500 people have been sickened by the highly contagious infection that causes [diarrhea](#) in victims, leading to severe [dehydration](#).

At least 331 people have died since the outbreak began in May, and officials fear it will spread further when children return to school this week after summer break.

UNICEF is launching an informational campaign in schools to teach children about good [hygiene](#) to prevent the disease from spreading.

Cholera also has killed several hundred people in Nigeria this year and more than 40 in the neighboring country of Chad.

©2010 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Citation: Cholera outbreak in Cameroon 'worst in 20 years' (2010, September 6) retrieved 19 April 2024 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2010-09-cholera-outbreak-cameroon-worst-years.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private

study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.