



Issue 168 | Nov 7, 2014 | Focus on WASH in Public Facilities

This issue contains recent reports and articles on WASH in health care facilities, WASH in prisons, and WASH in public markets. Included are 2014 World Health Organization (WHO) and USAID reports on managing health care waste, a 2014 WHO report on prisons and health, and studies on food and public market sanitation in Ghana, Kenya, and Vietnam.

WASH IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Guide to Health Care Waste Management for the Community Health Worker, 2014. USAID. [English](#) | [French](#)

This publication provides practical guidance for community health workers on how to safely handle and dispose of hazardous waste. It describes the basic principles of waste management and offers solutions for managing the waste generated from everyday activities carried out in the community.

Safe Management of Wastes from Healthcare Activities, 2014. WHO. [Link](#)

This handbook—the result of extensive international consultation and collaboration—provides comprehensive guidance on safe, efficient, and environmentally sound methods for handling and disposal of health-care wastes in normal situations and emergencies.

Global Experiences in Water Reuse, 2014. J Lautze. [Link](#)

This report draws on experiences from 41 global case studies that provide an array of approaches to safe and sustainable water reuse. The cases show that pressure on the world's water resources has been growing dramatically, and climate change is accentuating patterns of droughts and floods.

Where There Is No Toilet: Water and Sanitation Environments of Domestic and Facility Births in Tanzania. *PLoS One*, Sept 2014. L Benova. [Link](#)

Inadequate water and sanitation during childbirth are likely to lead to poor maternal and newborn outcomes. This paper uses existing data sources to assess the water and sanitation environment surrounding births in Tanzania in order to discern whether such estimates could be useful for guiding research, policy, and monitoring initiatives.

Is Essential Newborn Care Provided by Institutions and After Home Births? Analysis of Prospective Data from Community Trials in Rural South Asia. *BMC Pregnancy Childbirth*, Mar 2014. C Pagel. [Link](#)

This study explores essential newborn care practices for births in institutions, at home with a skilled birth attendant, and at home without a skilled birth attendant in rural areas of Bangladesh, Nepal, and India. For unattended home deliveries, increased hand washing, use of clean delivery kits, and basic thermal care offer great scope for improvement.

WASH IN PRISONS

Prisons and Health, 2014. WHO. [Link](#)

This report outlines important suggestions by international experts to improve the health of those in prison and to reduce both the health risks and risks to society of imprisonment. Water, hygiene, and sanitation are among the issues covered.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Prisons, 2013. ICRC. [Link](#)

In developing countries, and especially in crisis situations, health conditions in places of detention are often unsatisfactory and sometimes deplorable. ICRC engineers work in many different contexts to remedy such situations. They have thus acquired, over the past 30 years, specific expertise in the area of environmental engineering in places of detention. This handbook offers a summary of the practical experience gained; it is not intended to provide answers to all problems relating to material conditions of detention.

Co-Infection of Malaria and Helminthes Infection among Prison Inmates. *Journal of Microbiology Research and Reviews*, Jan 2014. I David. [Link](#)

Prison health is a neglected area and few health professionals choose to work in a prison setting. The lack of concern, facilities, and expertise further deteriorates the health of inmates. To promote hygienic practices among inmates this study recommends adequate water supply, health education, and the use of mosquito nets.

WASH IN PUBLIC MARKETS

Dining with Less Danger: Mapping Food and Environmental Hazards in Mathare, Nairobi, 2014. IIED. [Link](#)

Street vendors play an important role in securing access to food for the residents of low-income settlements in many cities. Yet they are often seen as providing unsafe food and contributing to environmental degradation. In Nairobi, the local federation of the urban poor Muungano wa Wanavijiji set out to explore how to improve food safety and work with street vendors and livestock keepers, who are in most cases also local residents. This brief describes how community-led mapping, including innovative techniques such as balloon mapping, helps create knowledge and identify new initiatives that reflect local communities' needs and priorities.

Reducing Health Risks to People Shopping at Poultry Markets in Vietnam, 2014. USAID. [Link](#)

Trading live poultry is common in Vietnam's markets and can create risks of infecting humans and contaminating market areas. USAID has developed a model to reduce these risks by establishing a separate area for live poultry trading, eliminating dangerous activities, improving hygiene and sanitation, and providing training and public communication to promote safer behaviors.

A Review on Food Safety and Food Hygiene Studies in Ghana. *Food Control*, 2015. P Ababio. [Link](#)

This study of food safety and hygiene in Ghana was conducted through a desktop literature review. Food research has been highly concentrated in the capital city of the country, and most research focused on commercial food operations, specifically street foods and microbiological safety. Limited information from institutional catering and other forms of food hazards was available.

A Survey of Pathogens Associated with *Cyperus esculentus* L (Tiger Nuts) Tubers Sold in a Ghanaian City. *BMC Research Notes*, 7:343, 2014, P Ayeh-Kum. [Link](#)

Buying and eating nuts as well as other fruits taken raw from street vendors and market places could pose a significant public health threat. This study is aimed at determining the level and distribution of parasitic and bacterial contaminants associated with unprocessed nuts.

WEBSITES

WHO: Healthcare Wastes - [Link](#)

WASHplus Weeklies highlight topics such as Urban WASH, Household Air Pollution, Innovation, Household Water Treatment and Storage, Hand Washing, Integration, and more. If you would like to feature your organization's materials in upcoming issues, please send them to Dan Campbell, WASHplus Knowledge Resources Specialist, at dacampbell@fhi360.org.



About WASHplus - WASHplus, a five-year project funded through USAID's Bureau for Global Health, supports healthy households and communities by creating and delivering interventions that lead to improvements in access, practice and health outcomes related to water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH) and household air pollution (HAP). WASHplus uses at-scale, targeted as well as integrated approaches to reduce diarrheal diseases and acute respiratory infections, the two top killers of children under five years of age globally. For information, visit www.washplus.org or email: contact@washplus.org.