# Yellow fever

## Transmission
- Mosquito bite
- Mosquitoes that spread yellow fever bite during the day

## Symptoms
- Most people who are infected with yellow fever do not get sick or have only a mild illness.
- Starts with sudden fever, headache and backache, muscle pain, nausea, vomiting and tiredness.
- The sick person may get better for a short time but can get worse and develop jaundice (yellow skin or eyes).
- Sick persons may also bleed from the gums, nose or eyes, vomit blood, or have blood in their stools.

## Prevention
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Routine vaccination</th>
<th>Elimination of mosquito breeding sites by removing standing water, fogging, and applying larvicides</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prevention of mosquito bites by putting insect screens on windows and doors and personal protection (application of repellents, long sleeved clothes, etc.)</td>
<td>Social mobilization and behaviour change communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community clean-up campaigns to remove rubbish and cover water containers</td>
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</tbody>
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## Vulnerable people
- Every person in the community who is not vaccinated can get yellow fever
- Young children and older people are more likely to become very sick or have complications

## If an epidemic occurs
| Support mass vaccination campaigns | Encourage prevention of mosquito bites by placing insect screens on windows and doors and wearing personal protection (apply repellents, wear long sleeved clothes, etc.) |
| Increase community-based surveillance | Eliminate mosquito breeding sites by removing standing water, fogging, and applying larvicides |
| Rapidly detect and refer suspected cases to health facilities | Encourage young children and people who sleep during the day to sleep under a mosquito net (if windows and doors are not screened) |
| Increase social mobilization and behaviour change communication | |
| Promote community clean-up campaigns to remove rubbish and cover water containers | |

## Volunteer actions
See the following action tools for more information on how to take action against yellow fever:
## Community-based assessment

Make a map of the community and mark the information you gather on the map. Record other details.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Questions</th>
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| - When did people start to fall sick with yellow fever?  
- How many people have fallen sick with yellow fever? Where?  
- How many people have died? Where?  
- How many people live in the affected community or area? How many children under five years of age live in the area?  
- Who and where are the vulnerable people?  
- Are children under five most affected? Or are other age groups, occupations, etc., more affected?  
- Are children and adults in the affected community vaccinated against yellow fever?  
- Is a vaccination campaign planned?  
- Do strong cultural beliefs or perceptions about vaccination prevent children from being vaccinated?  
- Do people usually cover their water containers (inside and outside)?  
- How many houses have insect screens on the windows and doors? | - What are the community’s habits, practices and beliefs regarding use of repellents, sprays, etc.?  
- What are the usual ways of disposing of rubbish and solid waste in the community?  
- Have the authorities established a vector control programme?  
- Where are the local health facilities and services? (Include traditional and community carers.)  
- What are the community’s habits, practices and beliefs about caring for and feeding sick people? When babies and infants are sick, do women continue to breastfeed them?  
- Is a social mobilization or health promotion programme in place?  
- Which sources of information do people use most?  
- Are rumours or is misinformation about the disease spreading in the community? |