



WASH in Health Facilities: Let's Get Practical

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The Crisis of WASH in Health Facilities: Why Action Is Needed Now

- The situation described in the WHO/UNICEF 2015 global assessment is likely worse than the numbers suggest
- Great disparities exist:
 - Between countries and regions within countries
 - Between large and small health facilities
- Mitigation of the WASH crisis in health facilities is challenging
 - High cost
 - Time required for planning and construction
 - Large numbers of smaller health facilities
- The risk of poor infrastructure has consequences today

Consequences of Poor WASH Infrastructure in Health Facilities

- Inadequate hand washing
- Unsafe administration of oral medicines
- Unclean health facility environment
- Increased risk of healthcare associated infections
- Erosion of patients' trust in health facilities
- Example: Ebola epidemic

WASH in Health Facilities: A Two-Phased Approach



Phase 1: Interventions

- Handwashing stations
- Drinking water stations
- Waste receptacles
 - Sharps
 - Infectious
 - Non-infectious
- Containment of waste (eg, fencing)
- Average cost (with training and transport)
 - \$200 to \$500 per health facility (health center or health post)



Phase 1 Process

- Conduct rapid assessment to identify WASH deficiencies
- Produce health facility-specific “scorecards” to guide implementation
- Address technology gaps rapidly at low cost
- Show visible early improvements with small fraction of budget
- Protect health of patients and providers



Key



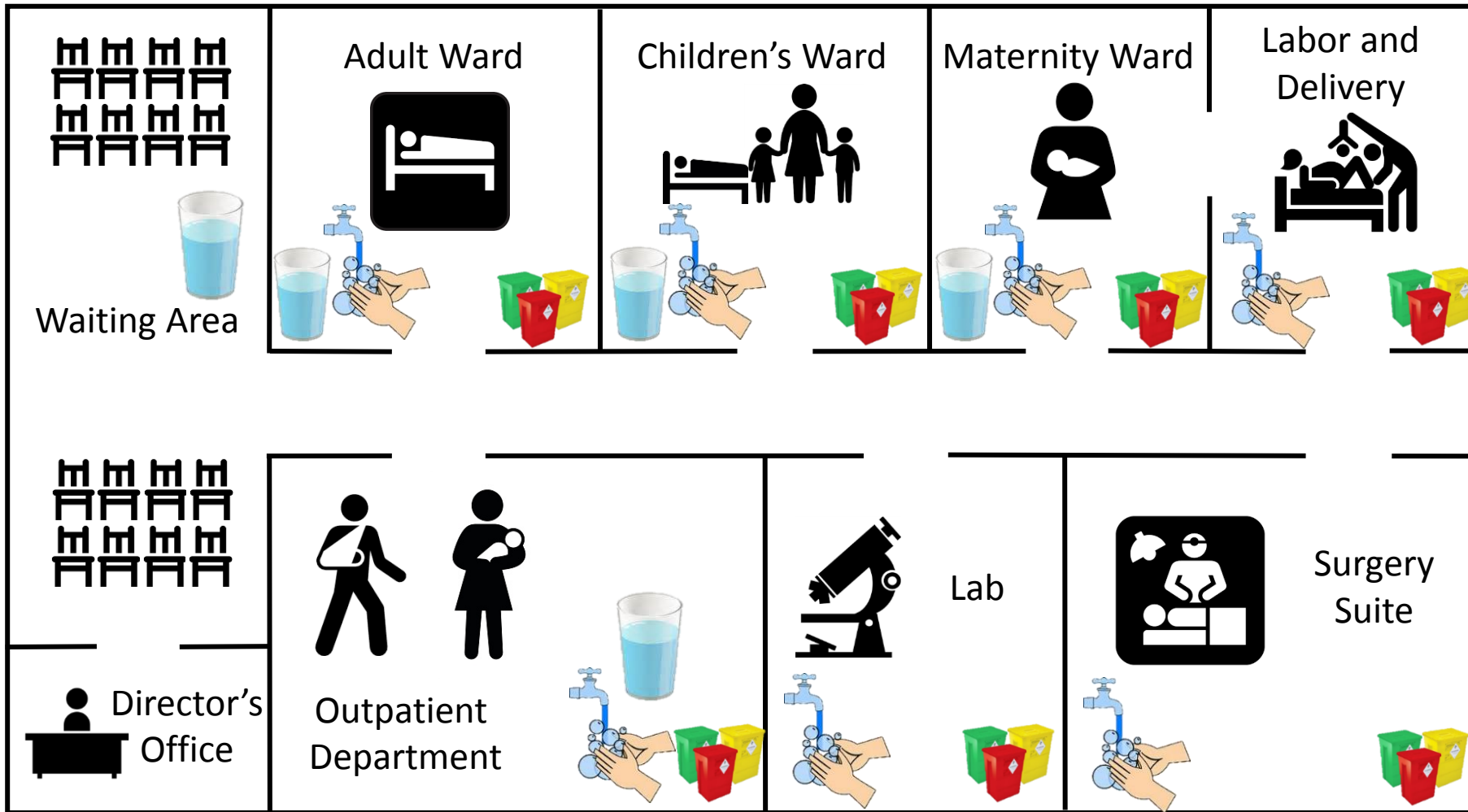
= drinking water station



= handwashing station



= 3 waste bins for disposal of sharps, infectious, and non-infectious waste



WASH in Health Facilities: Phase 2



Phase 1: rapid, low-cost
interventions

Phase 2:
traditional WASH
infrastructure

Phase 2

- Water supply
- On-site water storage
- Handwashing facilities
- Sanitation
- Waste management
- Average cost: \$10,000 to \$100,000 per facility



Postscript: what's at stake



Liberia



Sierra Leone

Thank you!



Disclaimer: The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the CDC.