A Cholera Treatment Centre (CTC) is a specialised isolation ward designed to manage and treat cholera patients and prevent the spread of the disease. In cholera outbreaks around the world, MSF rapidly sets up these centres to combat and contain infection.

Treating cholera is a race against time. The onset of the disease is abrupt, with profuse diarrhoea and vomiting resulting in severe dehydration that can kill infected people within hours. Although it is an easily curable disease, it is vital that cases are detected and treated as early as possible.

In the CTC, patients are given an oral rehydration solution that works to replace the massive amount of fluids and salts lost due to the disease. During this period, patients are isolated to prevent the further spread of infection.

In 2009, MSF treated 103,220 cholera cases around the world and in most outbreaks, was able to limit the fatality rate among patients to less than 1 percent. Since the cholera epidemic began in Haiti in late October 2010, MSF teams have treated more than 110,000 patients across the country.