

[Available Issues](#) | [Japanese](#)

Author:

[ADVANCED](#)

Volume

Page

Keyword:



[TOP](#) > [Available Issues](#) > [Table of Contents](#) > **Abstract**

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[\[PDF \(369K\)\]](#) [\[I\]](#)

Bacterial contamination of drinking water and nutrient diet in the areas of the western Solomon Islands dev April 2, 2007 earthquake/tsunami

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Abstract: On 2nd April 2007, at 7:40 local time (20:40 GMT 1 A earthquake, the epicenter of which was 10 km deep and 45 km sou the provincial capital of the Western Province, struck the Solomon l and displacing approximately 5,000. This study, based on field rese reports on the result of the cross-sectional assessment of the bacteri coli, *Vibrio* spp. and total bacteria) of drinking water and water so

longitudinal comparison of dietary intake and epidemiology in six earthquake-affected villages in the Western Province, Solomon Islands. The test results showed that 92.0% of drinking-water was unsafe in four camps of evacuated evacuees. Of 11 drink-water samples collected from safe water sources were free from bacterial contamination throughout the study villages. The reported occurrence of diarrhea, which was 12.7 per mil in 2001 and 4.8 per mil in 2003 in one of the study villages, was 12.7 per mil after the disaster in 2007. Deterioration of dietary intakes was not confirmed. Further studies are expected to follow up on the changes in water, dietary intake and long-term recovery operations, the rapid assessment suggested the use of water purifiers and education regarding water and hygiene-related issues to minimize health risks in devastated villages.

Key words: [tsunami](#), [bacterial contamination](#), [water](#), [dietary intake](#)

[\[PDF \(369K\)\]](#) [\[References\]](#)



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