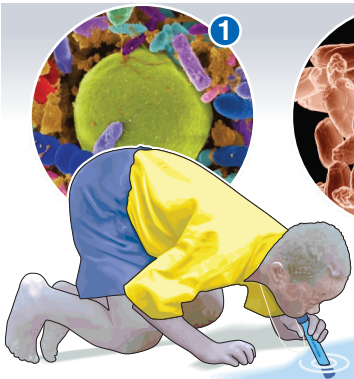


Pakistan faces risk of waterborne disease

A reusable drinking straw that purifies water as it passes through could reduce the risks from waterborne disease in flood-ravaged Pakistan. The LifeStraw – a device which destroys 98.2% of waterborne viruses and over 99.9% of bacteria – costs just \$2 each



Waterborne disease: Caused by protozoa and cysts (1); bacteria (2); or viruses (3); transmitted by water contaminated with human or animal faeces or urine

Textile pre-filter:

100-micron mesh traps large particles and parasites (100 microns is diameter of human hair)

Polyester textile filter:

15-micron mesh filters smaller particles and bacterial clusters

Granulated active carbon:

Removes unpleasant iodine smell, filters any remaining parasites

Resin bead filter:

Iodine in beads kill bacteria, parasites and viruses

LifeStraw specification

Shell: High-impact polystyrene

Lifespan: 700 litres – one year, based on intake of 2 litres/day

Prevents: Diarrhoea, dysentery, typhoid, cholera



Length: 31cm. **Diameter:** 2.9cm