Background

- Around 1 billion people in the world don’t have access to safe drinking water.
- Unilever is committed to providing safe and affordable drinking water to 500 million consumers by 2020 (Unilever Sustainable Living Plan).
- At present, Unilever devices protect more than 55 million consumers in over 13 countries.
- Unilever’s current technology portfolio consists of Chemical & Physical disinfection, Membrane filtration, Coagulation & Flocculation etc.
- Several novel technologies are in the innovation pipeline.

Focus Areas: MRA Capability Development

- Development of improved exposure assessment methods – from indicator bacteria to specific enteric pathogen
- Building understanding to predict and control ‘Biofouling’
- Knowledge build around factors affecting pathogen treatment and performance of technologies
- Exploring use of alternate data sources in absence of pathogen prevalence data to derive performance objectives for treatment

Research Collaborations & Advocacy Networks

Influencing Science & regulations to adopt risk-based approaches

- Improved methods for pathogen exposure assessment
- Understanding Biofouling in membrane systems
- Factors affecting efficacy of treatment
- Technology specific targets for evaluating efficacy
- Use of epidemiology to derive treatment standards

Our Goal

- Advance our knowledge on waterborne pathogens, their ecology & treatment to help robust risk assessment of Unilever technologies
- Scientifically influence global risk assessment strategies & regulations for Household Water Treatment Systems (HWTS)

Fig: Rotavirus Mortality in children younger than 5 years of age (200*)