Summary
New cVDPV2 cases this week: 4
Total number of cVDPV2 cases: 52
Outbreak grade: 3

Infected governorates and districts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Governorate</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Number of cVDPV2 cases to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deir Ez-Zor</td>
<td>Mayadeen</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deir Ez-Zor</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boukamal</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raqqa</td>
<td>Tell Abyad</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thawra</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homs</td>
<td>Tadmour</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
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Index case
Location: Mayadeen district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate
Onset of paralysis: 3 March 2017, age: 22 months,
vaccination status: 2 OPV doses/zero IPV

Most recent case (by date of onset)
Location: Mayadeen, Deir Ez-Zor governorate
Onset of paralysis: 25 August, age: 9 months,
vaccination status: 1 OPV/zero IPV

Characteristics of the cVDPV2 cases
Median age: 16 months
Gender ratio male-female: 5:8
Vaccination status of the cases:
- IPV: 10 cases (19%) received IPV
- OPV: 33% zero dose, 46% have received 1-2 doses

Key highlights
- Four (4) new cases of cVDPV2 were reported this week — three (3) from Mayadeen district and one (1) from Boukamal district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate.
- The total number of confirmed cVDPV2 cases is 52.
- The second immunization round for Raqqa concluded on 13 October. According to administrative data, a total of 144,414 children aged 0-59m were vaccinated with mOPV2. The numbers of children reported vaccinated represented 96% of a revised estimated target calculated according to updated micro-plans.
- IPV is being administered to children aged between 2-23 months in 2 districts, Raqqa and Thawra. The campaign in Raqqa and Thawra is ongoing.
- 540,000 Aqua tabs were distributed to families together with vaccination in areas of Rural Raqqa (Salhabiyah, Khilah, Al-Rasheed camp, Hesha, Karama town and camp) during the second Raqqa campaign.
- New areas were reached this round in the Thawra desert, where 4,550 children (representing 65% of the target) under 5 were vaccinated after a gap of 18 months.
Immunization response

- Two immunization rounds have now been completed in both Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. Deir Ez-Zor activities include the southern part of Shadadi district in Hasakah governorate.

Raqqa

- The second immunization round for Raqqa was completed on 13 October, 2017. mOPV2 was administered to children 0-59 months of age, and IPV to children aged between 2-23 months in 2 districts, Raqqa and Thawra. 540,000 Aqua tabs were provided to families together with vaccination in Rural Raqqa.
- New areas were accessed in the second Raqqa campaign. A total of 144,414 children aged 0-59m were vaccinated with mOPV2 in the second round compared with 103,720 vaccinated in the first round. The new settlements were in the Thawra desert, Karama area and Rural Raqqa. Micro-plans were updated to include new settlements and standby teams were sent to cover the areas.
- 4,550 children were vaccinated for the first time in 18 months in 47 newly accessible settlements identified in Debsi Afnan, in West Rural Raqqa. Children were reached by vaccination teams from Hama governorate who supported the campaign.
- 25 villages in Maadan, Raqqa governorate remained inaccessible during the second round, however 7000 children aged 0-59 months displaced from Maadan district, Raqqa and Deir Ez-Zor governorate were vaccinated in Karama.
- A total of 400 vaccinators and 40 supervisors participated in Raqqa campaign in both mobile and fixed site teams.

Deir Ez-Zor

- WHO and UNICEF received reports that ongoing violence in Deir Ez-Zor has destroyed a UNICEF-supported vaccine cold room in Mayadeen district, storing more than 100,000 doses of vaccines. While the reports are being verified, plans for urgent provision of essential cold chain equipment have been developed to allow any urgent vaccination activities to continue.

Other governorates

- IPV campaign activities aiming to reach children aged between 2-23 months in accessible areas of Aleppo and Idlib governorates have been completed. The campaign in Aleppo and Idlib achieved 73% coverage of target population according to intra-campaign monitoring conducted by third-party monitors. Campaign activities in Hama governorate started on 14 October and are ongoing.

Regional response

- IPV vaccination activities continue at border points in Lebanon and Turkey. Lebanon is also continuing the use of targeted IPV vaccination for any child under five (5) entering Lebanon from Syria.
- Additional IPV vaccination campaigns are planned for Hasakah governorate and four (4) areas in Damascus to boost the immunity among IDPs from Deir Ez-Zor who have been displaced. These campaigns are being planned for November 2017.

Coordination and surge support

- A polio control room is functional in Tell Abyad, with direct communication with staff in the field. Daily reporting of pre-, intra- and post-campaign activities to the control room is taking place.
- WHO and UNICEF have deployed additional human resources (surge support) to both hubs since the start of the outbreak. WHO-UNICEF joint EOCs in both Damascus and Gaziantep hubs in collaboration with partners continue to monitor the outbreak situation, exchange information, and assist in the response. Since the start of the outbreak, Regional Offices of both organizations have held weekly calls with hubs to ensure coordination at all levels.

Communications for Development (C4D) and social mobilization activities

- Communication officers supported the distribution of Aqua Tabs in Rural Raqqa to ensure proper dissemination and safe utilization in the community.
Surveillance summary

- In 2017, the country and all governorates but three, are meeting both key global indicators for AFP surveillance: 3 or more non-polio AFP cases per 100,000 children below 15 years of age, and 80 percent or above AFP cases with adequate specimens. Raqqa (75%), Rural Damascus (71%) and Swieda (67%) are missing the target for stool adequacy.

A total of 47 new villages in Debsi Afnan, West Rural Raqqa were reached in the second round of the immunization campaign. Photo: WHO Syria

Five vaccination teams from Hama reached more than 4,000 children between 0-59 months with mOPV2 in Debsi Afnan, West Rural Raqqa. The area has not been accessible for the last 18 months. Photo: WHO Syria

mOPV2 and IPV vaccination in Karama fixed center, 35 km west of Raqqa. Photo: WHO Syria

Aqua Tabs distribution in Salhabiayah village 28 km west of Raqqa city. Photo: UNICEF

UNICEF delivered messages around safe use of Aqua Tabs that were distributed to families during the campaign. Photo: UNICEF
EPI Curve of AFP cases by classification, 2017 (up to 16 October 2017)

Syria

Deir Ez-Zor

Raqqa

Homs

Data as of 16 October 2017

DZ Round 1 mOPV2

DZ Round 2 mOPV2 & IPV

Raqqa Round 1 mOPV2

Raqqa Round 2 mOPV2 & IPV

DZ Round 1 mOPV2 (22 Jul—26 Jul)

Raqqa Round 2 mOPV2 & IPV (8)

Raqqa Round 1 mOPV2 (12 Aug - )
Data as of 16 October 2017

Vaccination status (OPV) NPAFP cases aged 6-59 months (up to 16 October 2017)

Relevant links

- Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) website, updated weekly
- Responding to an outbreak of VDPV video
- What is vaccine-derived polio?
- GPEI factsheet—VDPV

For more information:

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