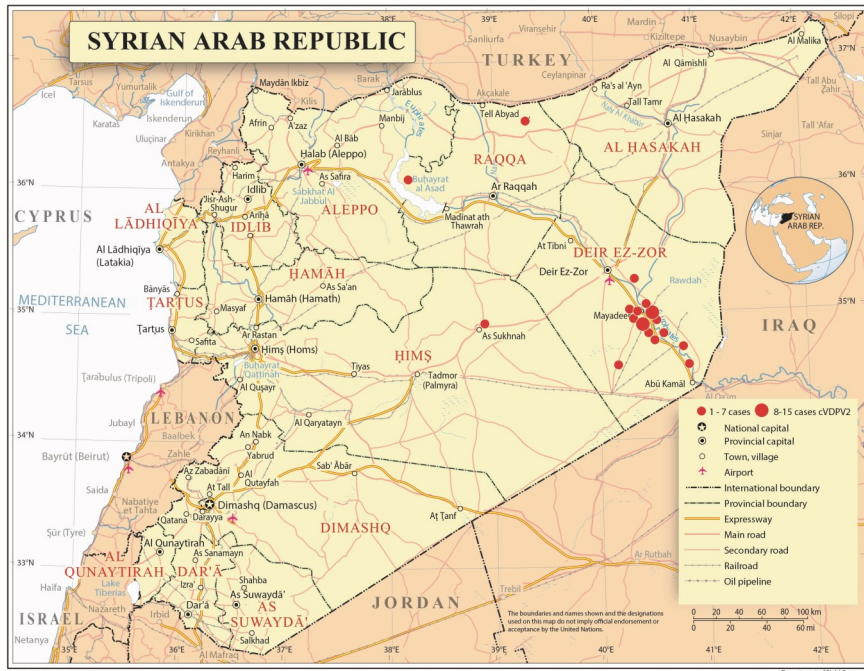


Syria cVDPV2 outbreak Situation Report # 23

21 November 2017

cVDPV2 cases in Deir Ez-Zor, Raqqa and Homs governorates, Syria, 2017



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Source: Syrian Arab Republic, Administrative map, DFS, United Nations 2012

Key highlights

- Seven (7) new cases of cVDPV2 were reported this week— four (4) cases from Mayadeen and three (3) from Boukamal district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate. The most recent case (by date of onset) is 9 September 2017 from Mayadeen district
- The total number of confirmed cVDPV2 cases is 70
- Outbreak response teams are planning a third mass immunization round to reach children under 5 with mOPV2 in areas where evidence of virus transmission continues
- A request from the Syrian Ministry of Health for up to one (1) million doses of mOPV2 and 500,000 IPV doses is being processed to ensure readiness for the second phase of the outbreak response
- Sub-National Immunization Days (SNIDs) aiming to reach children under five with bOPV started this week in areas of Rural Damascus, districts of Damascus, Homs, Aleppo and accessible areas of Deir Ez-Zor city. Children aged 2-23 months will also be reached with supplementary IPV during the sub-national campaign, particularly in areas with large IDP populations
- A joint supervisory team is monitoring the IPV campaign in all areas of Damascus, with a focus on areas where there are large IDP populations from Deir Ez-Zor to ensure campaign quality

Summary

New cVDPV2 cases this week: 7
 Total number of cVDPV2 cases: 70
 Outbreak grade: 3

Infected governorates and districts

Governorate	District	Number of cVDPV2 cases to date
Deir Ez-Zor	Mayadeen	55
	Deir Ez-Zor	1
	Boukamal	11
Raqqa	Tell Abyad	1
	Thawra	1
Homs	Tadmour	1

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: 9 September, age: 9 months, vaccination status: 2 OPV/zero IPV

Characteristics of the cVDPV2 cases

Median age: 15 months
 Gender ratio male-female: 3:5
 Vaccination status of the cases:
 - IPV: 10 cases (14%) received IPV
 - OPV: 39% zero dose, 44% have received 1-2 doses

Distribution of non-polio AFP (NPAFP) and circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type-2 (cVDPV2), Deir Ez-Zor, Raqqa and Homs governorates, 2017

Gov.	Deir Ez-Zor		Raqqa		Homs	
	NPAFP	cVDPV2	NPAFP	cVDPV2	NPAFP	cVDPV2
Jan	2		2		2	
Feb	11		3		4	
Mar	5	2	1		2	
Apr	7	5	1	1	4	
May	13	16	2		3	
Jun	8	12	3	1	3	
Jul	8	9	2		8	1
Aug	14	21			6	
Sep	6	2	2		3	
Oct	2		4		8	
Nov	1					
Total	77	67	20	2	43	1

Immunization response

- Since confirmation of the outbreak, World Health Organization and UNICEF has coordinated with the Government of Syria and local authorities to carry out a strategic response to stop cVDPV2 transmission. Two mass vaccination rounds have been carried out in Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates, reaching resident, refugee and internally displaced children. Both governorates have completed rounds with more than 255,000 children reported vaccinated in Deir Ez-Zor and more than 140,000 reported vaccinated in Raqqa
- In addition to focused mOPV2 campaigns, a single dose of IPV has been offered to children 2-23 months in all districts of Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa, except Tell Abyad district, Raqqa. Additional IPV immunization activities to boost the immunity of children aged between 2-23 months have been carried out in high risk areas of Aleppo, Idlib and Hama governorates
- Outbreak response teams are planning a third mass immunization round to reach children under 5 with mOPV2 in areas where evidence of virus transmission continues

Additional risk mitigation strategies

- Additional contingency planning is ongoing for potential breakthrough cases in known outbreak zones or spread of virus to new areas of the country. The plans aim to ensure that the programme is able to respond as quickly as possible if any further transmission of poliovirus is detected in Syria
- This includes the continued and strategic use of IPV in high risk communities, including those with large IDP populations from Deir Ez-Zor and pre-positioning of approximately one (1) million doses of mOPV2 in Damascus to enable rapid response in the event of any new detection of virus
- Efforts to further improve AFP surveillance sensitivity continue across the country. In addition to ongoing contact sampling from all AFP cases, stool samples are being taken from healthy children arriving from known infected areas as well as from silent districts, (districts that have not reported AFP cases in 2017) and active case searches in displaced camps continue
- Sub-National Immunization Days (SNIDs) aiming to reach children under five with bOPV started this week in areas of Rural Damascus, districts of Damascus, Homs, Aleppo and accessible areas of Deir Ez-Zor city. Children aged 2-23 months will also be reached with supplementary IPV during the campaign

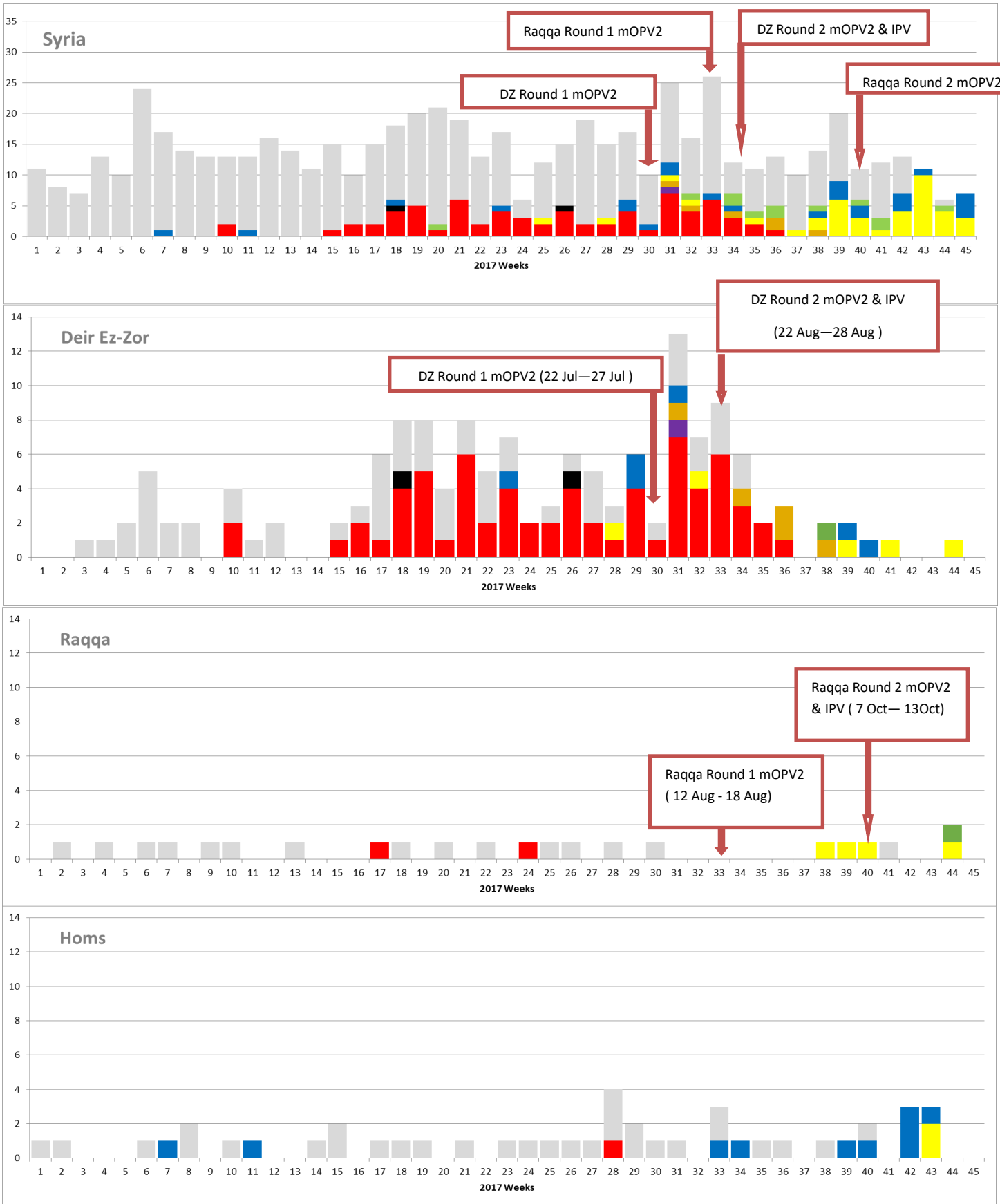
Coordination and surge support

- WHO and UNICEF continue to deploy additional human resources (surge support) to both hubs (Gaziantep and Damascus). WHO-UNICEF joint Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs) in both hubs, in collaboration with partners, continue to monitor the outbreak situation, exchange information, and assist in the response

Surveillance summary

- In 2017, Syria and all governorates but four, are meeting both key 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. Deir Ez-Zor (78%), Raqqa (70%), Rural Damascus (74%) and Swieda (63%) are missing the 80% target for stool adequacy. (*NB: In an outbreak setting, the target is 3 or more non-polio AFP cases per 100,000 children below 15 years)
- The total number of AFP cases detected in Deir Ez-Zor governorate since the beginning of 2017 is 144 (107 from Mayadeen, 12 from Deir Ez-Zor, and 25 from Boukamal districts). Raqqa governorate has reported 22 AFP cases (10 from Raqqa, 10 from Tell Abyad, and 2 from Thawra districts). Homs governorate has reported 44 AFP cases (22 from Homs city, 19 from Rastan, 1 from Tadmour and 2 from Talkalakh districts)
- 6 polio-virus type-2 isolates are currently pending genomic sequencing
- Work continues to support the upgrade of laboratory facilities to enable more sophisticated techniques to be conducted in-country for the detection of poliovirus and the establishment of environmental surveillance

EPI Curve of AFP cases by classification, 2017 (up to 21 November 2017)



■ cVDPV2 ■ Compatible ■ SL2 ■ PV2 pending sequencing ■ Pending lab results ■ En route to lab ■ Pending classification ■ Discarded

Vaccination status (OPV) NPAFP cases aged 6-59 months (up to 21 November 2017)



■ 3+ doses
■ 1-2 doses
■ Zero dose

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](#)

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