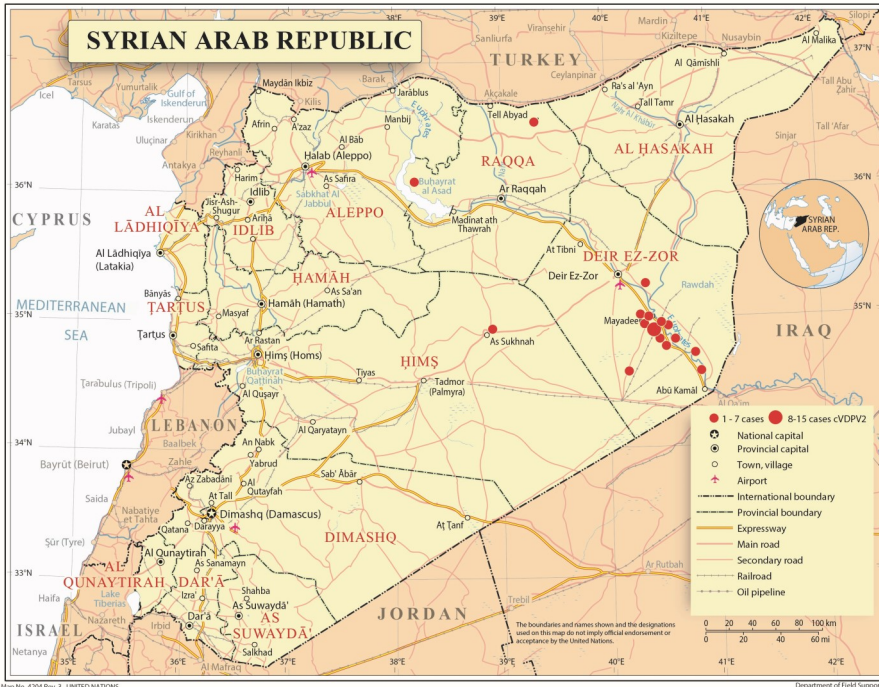


Syria cVDPV2 outbreak Situation Report # 20

31 October 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

- One (1) new case of cVDPV2 was reported this week from Mayadeen, Deir Ez-Zor governorate. The date of onset of the case was 18 August 2017. The most recent case (by date of onset) remains 25 August
- The total number of cVDPV2 cases is 53
- Third party independent monitoring results for the second outbreak response round for Raqqa governorate have been received. Reported coverage of targeted children is 69% (measured by parental recall through a house to house survey). Market surveys reported much higher coverage of 84%
- Sixteen (16) new refrigerator trucks have been provided by UNICEF to transport vaccine and maintain cold chain for ongoing response activities and outreach
- WHO is supporting the upgrade of laboratory facilities to enable more sophisticated techniques to be conducted in country for the detection of poliovirus. WHO is also supporting the establishment of environmental surveillance in country by end of 2017

Summary

New cVDPV2 cases this week: 1
 Total number of cVDPV2 cases: 53
 Outbreak grade: 3

Infected governorates and districts

Governorate	District	Number of cVDPV2 cases to date
Deir Ez-Zor	Mayadeen	43
	Deir Ez-Zor	1
	Boukamal	6
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: 25 August, age: 9 months, vaccination status: 1 OPV/zero IPV

Characteristics of the cVDPV2 cases

Median age: 16 months
 Gender ratio male-female: 3:5
 Vaccination status of the cases:
 - IPV: 10 cases (19%) received IPV
 - OPV: 32% zero dose, 47% 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

Mth	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	10	6	2		8	1
Aug	29	9			6	
Sep	7		2		3	
Oct	1		2		2	
Total	93	50	18	2	37	1

Immunization response

- Two outbreak response rounds utilizing mOPV2 have now been completed in both Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. A single dose of IPV has also been offered to children 2-23 months in all districts of these two governorates except Tell Abyad district, Raqqa.
- Additional IPV immunization aiming to reach children aged between 2-23 months in high risk areas of Aleppo and Idlib has concluded. IPV activities Hama governorate are ongoing. Total administrative coverage to date reports 223,001 children between ages 2-23 months were vaccinated (representing 98% of the target)

Raqqa

- Third party independent monitoring of the second immunization round for Raqqa reported coverage of 69.0% (measured by parental recall through a house to house survey). Raqqa district reported the highest coverage (75%), followed by Thawra (69%) and Tell Abyad (63%)
- 73% of households knew about the (second) campaign in Raqqa governorate before its implementation. The highest percentage was in Raqqa district with 90% awareness
- 451 children (12% of the sample) were found to be vaccinated for the first time in Raqqa governorate
- Third party independent monitoring of IPV vaccination in Raqqa and Thawra districts reported a total of 10,960 children aged between 2-23 months were vaccinated with IPV, which represents 36% of the total target for the governorate. Vaccination with IPV was not able to be conducted in Tell Abyad district. Work in Tell Abyad district continues to start this activity as soon as possible

Deir Ez-Zor

- In addition to ongoing contact sampling from all AFP cases, supplementary surveillance strategies are also being implemented to further strengthen surveillance sensitivity across the country. Stool samples are being taken from healthy children arriving from known infected areas as well as from silent districts – districts that have not reported an AFP cases in 2017
- Cold chain is being assessed in Deir Ez-Zor to establish the additional equipment needs

Other governorates

- IPV campaign activities in Hama governorate are ongoing in high risk areas. Initial administrative coverage reports 8,073 children aged between 2-23 months were vaccinated (representing 80% of the target)
- Preparation for additional IPV campaign activities in Hasakah, Aleppo and Damascus governorates are ongoing. Microplans have now been developed for the campaigns, which are planned for November 2017. These supplementary activities will help to protect children arriving and living in these areas
- Sixteen (16) new refrigerator trucks have been provided by UNICEF to strengthen local capacity to transport vaccines and maintain cold chain for ongoing response activities and outreach
- Active case search in displaced camps and stool collection from healthy children in displaced populations arriving from Deir Ez-Zor is continuing

Regional response

- Contingency planning for any potential breakthrough cases in known outbreak zones or spread of virus to new areas of the country is nearing completion. The goal of these plans is to ensure that the programme is able to respond as quickly as possible if any further transmission of poliovirus is detected in Syria
- IPV vaccination activities continue at border points in Lebanon and Turkey. Lebanon is also using IPV to boost population immunity against poliovirus in identified high risk sub-districts

Coordination and surge support

- WHO and UNICEF have deployed additional human resources (surge support) to both hubs (Gaziantep and Damascus) since the start of the outbreak. WHO-UNICEF joint EOCs in both hubs in collaboration with partners continue to monitor the outbreak situation, exchange information, and assist in the response

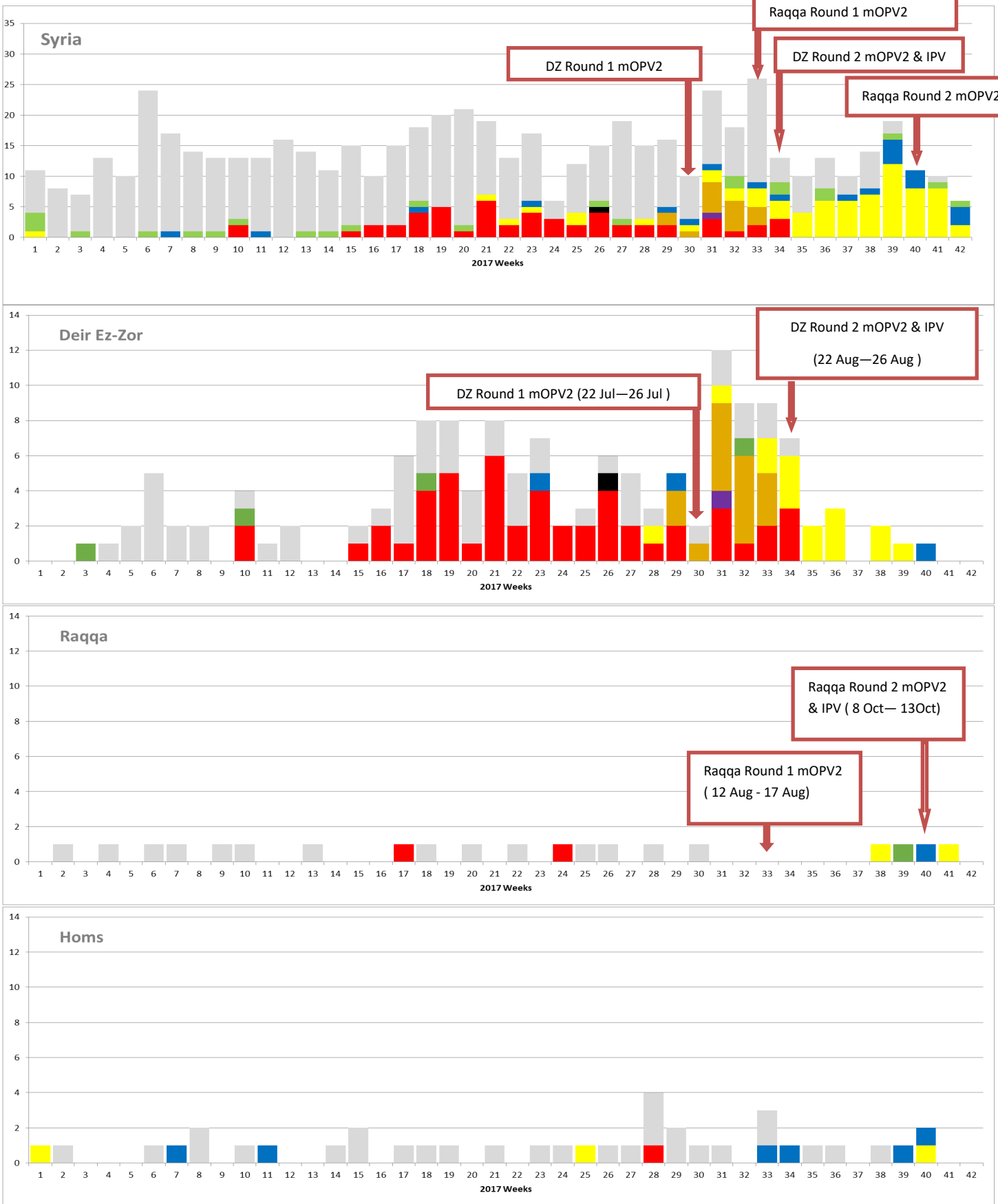
Surveillance summary

- 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 (77%), Raqqa (72%), Rural Damascus (74%) and Swieda (57%) 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)
- WHO is supporting the upgrade of laboratory facilities to enable more sophisticated techniques to be conducted in country for the detection of poliovirus. The development includes upgrades to allow for intra-typic strain differentiation
- WHO is also supporting the establishment of environmental surveillance. WHO has provided the equipment and will conduct training for Lab staff to establish the supplementary environmental surveillance system before the end of 2017
- The total number of AFP cases detected in Deir Ez-Zor governorate since the beginning of 2017 is 143 (107 from Mayadeen, 11 from Deir Ez-Zor, and 25 from Boukamal districts). Raqqa governorate has reported 20 AFP cases (8 from Raqqa, 10 from Tell Abyad, and 2 from Thawra districts). Homs governorate has reported 38 AFP cases (20 from Home city, 15 from Rastan, 1 from Tadmour and 2 from Talkalakh districts)
- Thirteen (13) AFP cases and 21 contacts have isolation of polio-virus type-2 but final results and genomic sequencing are currently pending



16 new refrigerator trucks have been provided by UNICEF to transport vaccine and maintain cold chain for ongoing outbreak response activities
Photo: UNICEF Syria

EPI Curve of AFP cases by classification, 2017 (up to 31 October 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 31 October 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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