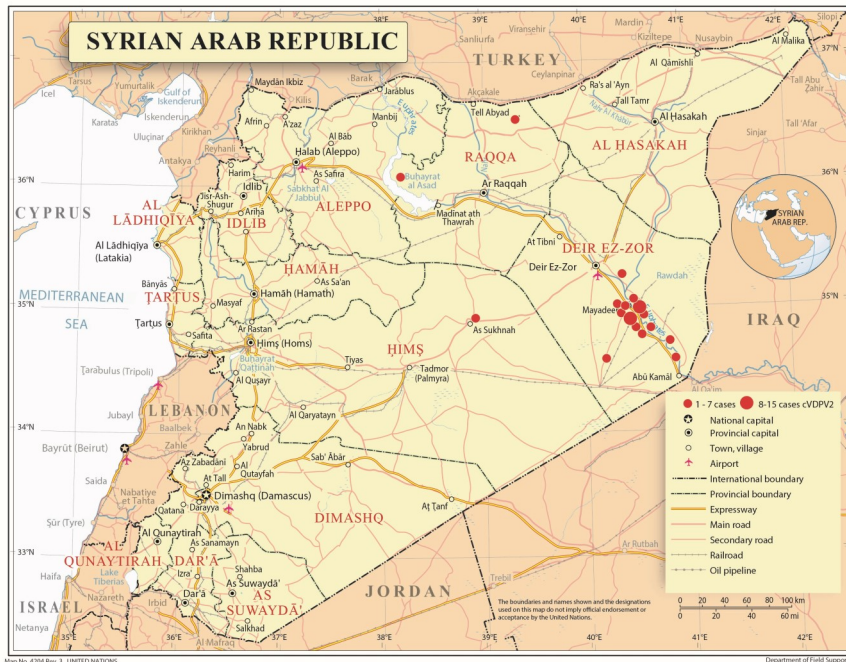


Syria cVDPV2 outbreak Situation Report # 36

27 February 2018

Distribution of cVDPV2 cases in Deir Ez-Zor, Raqqa and Homs governorates, Syria, 2017 and 2018



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

Summary

New cVDPV2 cases this week: 0
 Total number of cVDPV2 cases: 74
 Outbreak grade: 3

Infected governorates and districts

Governorate	District	Number of cVDPV2 cases to date
Deir Ez-Zor	Mayadeen	58
	Deir Ez-Zor	1
	Boukamal	12
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/zero IPV

Most recent case (by date of onset)

Location: Boukamal, Deir Ez-Zor governorate
 Onset of paralysis: 21 September 2017, age: 5 months, vaccination status: zero OPV/zero IPV

Characteristics of the cVDPV2 cases

Median age: 15 months
 Gender: approximately two thirds of cases are female
 Vaccination status of the cases:
 - IPV: 11 cases (15%) received IPV
 - OPV: 41% zero dose, 42% 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 2017-2018

Gov.	Deir Ez-Zor		Raqqa		Homs	
	NPAFP	cVDPV2	NPAFP	cVDPV2	NPAFP	cVDPV2
Jan'17	2		2		2	
Feb'17	11		3		4	
Mar'17	5	2	1		2	
Apr'17	7	5	1	1	4	
May'17	13	16	2		3	
Jun'17	8	12	4	1	3	
Jul'17	8	9	2		8	1
Aug'17	12	22			6	
Sep'17	2	5	3		3	
Oct'17	2		4		8	
Nov'17	10		2		3	
Dec'17	9		3		3	
Jan'18	17		4		2	
Feb'18	5				2	
Total	111	71	31	2	53	1

Key highlights

- No new cases of cVDPV2 were reported this week. The total number of cVDPV2 cases remains 74. The most recent case (by date of onset of paralysis) is 21 September 2017 from Boukamal district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate.
- An inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) immunization round continues in accessible areas of Aleppo utilizing mobile and fixed teams. To date the round has reached a total of 233,518 children aged 2-23 months, representing 71% of the estimated target, in Damascus, Hasakah, parts of Aleppo governorates, and Jurmana district of rural Damascus.
- All empty vials of monovalent Oral Polio Vaccine type 2 (mOPV2) have been collected and destroyed in Damascus.
- Preparations are ongoing for a nationwide immunization round utilizing bivalent OPV (bOPV), which is planned for March. The campaign will target all children aged less than 5 years.
- An independent external surveillance review has concluded in Iraq. The Ministry of Health Iraq has accepted a key recommendation to revitalize the AFP surveillance system in conflict affected northern governorates bordering Syria.
- The Global Certification Commission for Polio Eradication in its 17th meeting in Geneva acknowledged the dedication of frontline health workers and their efforts to help control the cVDPV2 outbreak in Syria, noting innovative operational strategies used to overcome challenges in the field to reach all children and to ensure adequate specimen transportation.

Immunization response

Phase one activities

- In the first phase of the response, more than 350,000 resident, refugee and internally displaced children were reached with mOPV2 through two mass vaccination rounds in Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. Additionally, World Health Organization and UNICEF coordinated with the Government of Syria and local authorities to reach children aged 2-23 months with IPV in infected and high risk areas of Deir Ez-Zor, Raqqa, Aleppo, Idleb, Hama and Homs governorates and areas of Damascus, Rural Damascus and Hasakah.

Phase two activities

- In the second phase of the outbreak response two mass vaccination rounds were conducted to reach resident, refugee and internally displaced children with mOPV2 in Deir Ez-Zor, Homs, Hasakah and Raqqa governorates and children aged 2-23 months in Damascus, Hasakah and Aleppo governorates, and Jurmana district of rural Damascus with IPV. The IPV campaign is ongoing in newly accessible parts of Aleppo governorate.

Coordination and surge support

- WHO and UNICEF continue to monitor the outbreak situation, exchange information, and assist in the response through the joint Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) in both hubs (Gaziantep and Damascus).

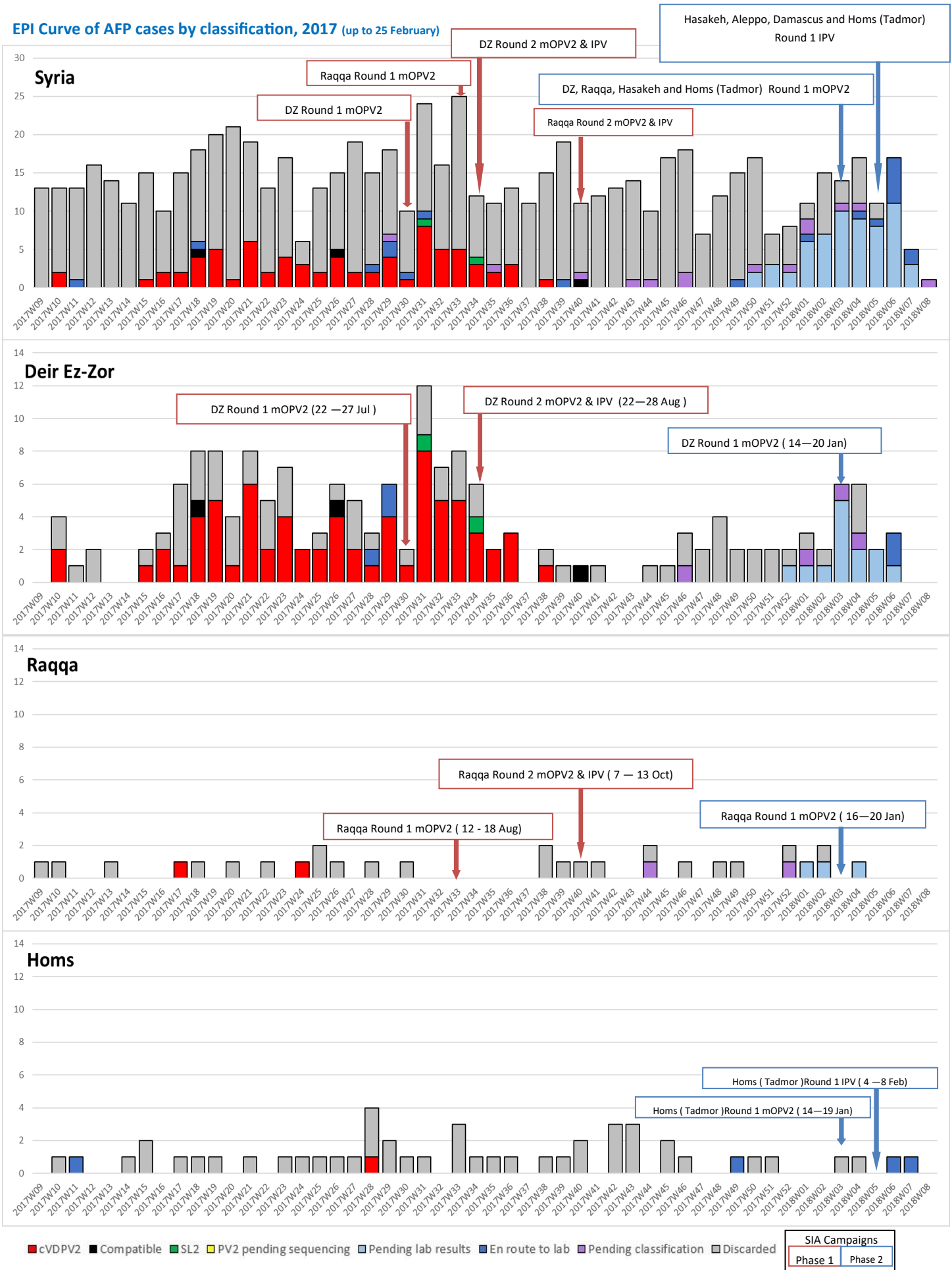
Surveillance summary

- In 2017, all governorates in Syria but five 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 (76%), Raqqa (67%), Rural Damascus (76%), Quneitra (78%) 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 182 (115 from Mayadeen, 34 from Deir Ez-Zor, and 33 from Boukamal districts). Raqqa governorate has reported 33 AFP cases (13 from Raqqa, 18 from Tell Abyad, and 2 from Thawra districts). Homs governorate has reported 54 AFP cases (29 from Homs city, 20 from Rastan, 1 from Tadmour, 1 from Moukahram and 3 from Talkalakh districts).
- AFP surveillance is being complimented by environmental surveillance (in Damascus, Deir Ez Zor, Homs and Aleppo) and healthy children stool sampling. Three new environmental sites have been added in Aleppo, Raqqa and Homs. Eleven (11) environmental samples have been taken, for which results are available for five samples (four from Damascus and one from Deir Ez Zor) with no isolation of VDPV2. 468 healthy children have been sampled since the start of the outbreak (415 in 2017, 53 to date in 2018).

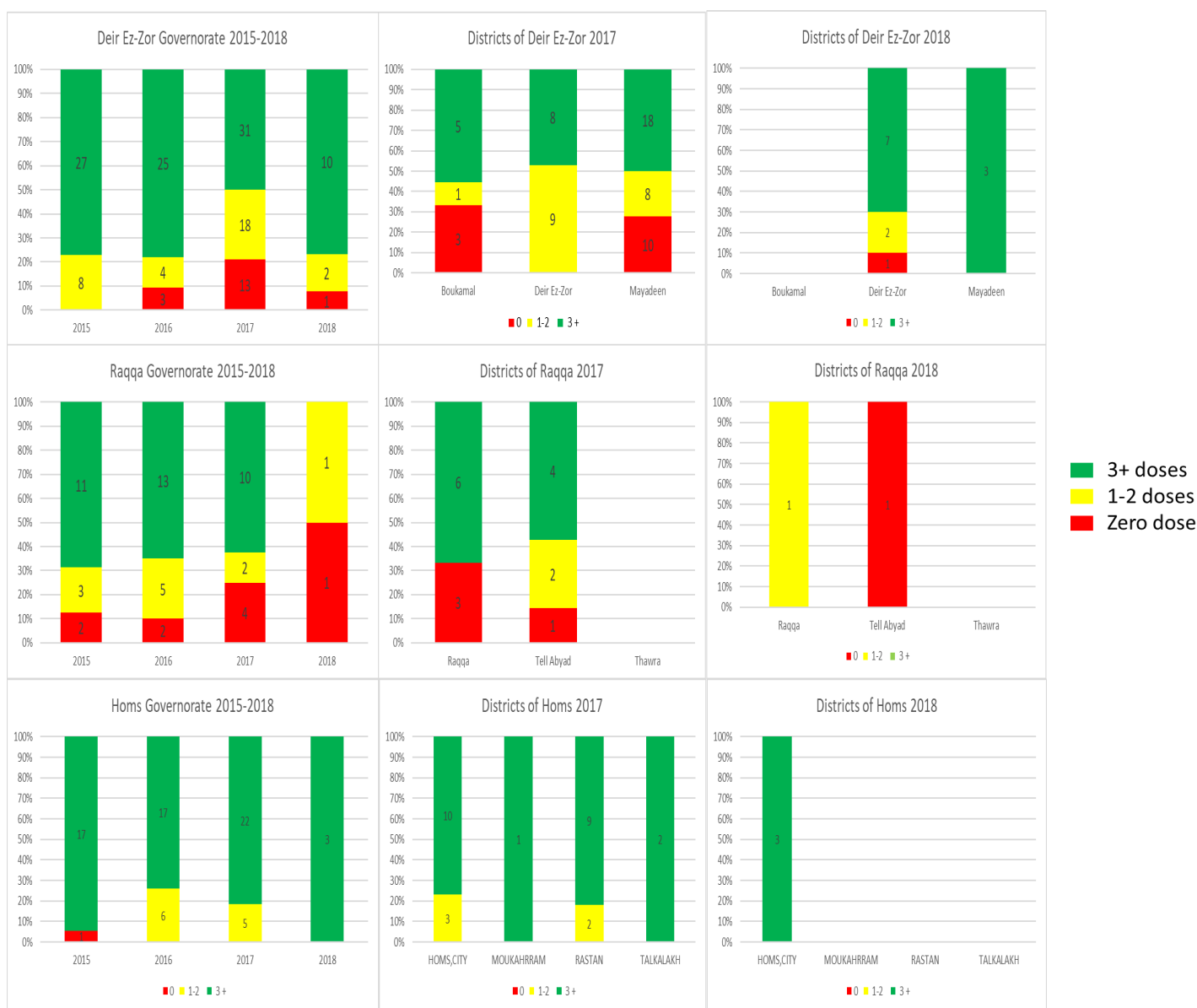


Above: Empty and unused vials of mOPV2 vaccine have been collected for destruction by incineration centrally in Damascus. Photo: UNICEF

EPI Curve of AFP cases by classification, 2017 (up to 25 February)



Vaccination status (OPV) NPAFP cases aged 6-59 months (up to 25 February 2018)



Relevant links

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

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