

Syria cVDPV2 outbreak Situation Report # 5

18 July 2017

cVDPV2 cases in Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa 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

- Twenty-seven (27) cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type-2 (cVDPV2) have been confirmed in Syria —26 cases are from Mayadeen district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate, and 1 case from Tell Abyad district, Raqqa governorate. This is an increase of 4 cases, since the last situation report dated 12 July. The most recent case (Mayadeen district) had onset of paralysis on 6 June.
- Monovalent type-2 oral polio vaccine (mOPV2) reached Deir Ez-Zor on 12 July. Vaccines for Raqqa are scheduled for transport this week, by air to Qamishli, then by road to Tell Abyad and Tabqa (Thawra). Immunization rounds for both Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates are expected to commence 22 July.
- OCHA is in communication with all parties in Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa regarding ceasefire days during campaign implementation. OCHA met with WHO on 16 July to discuss campaign operations.
- A two-day training workshop on vaccine management and micro-planning for Raqqa field staff was successfully conducted in Damascus. Final micro-plans have been developed by Ministry of Health with the support of WHO and UNICEF.
- Training of vaccinators and supervisors and distribution of communication materials within Deir Ez-Zor is ongoing.
- The total number of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases detected in Deir Ez-Zor

Summary

New cVDPV2 cases this week: 4
 Total number of cVDPV2 cases: 27
 Outbreak grade: 3

Index case

Onset of paralysis: 3 March 2017
 Location: Mayadeen district, Deir Ez-Zor
 Age: 22 months
 Vaccination status: 2 OPV doses/zero IPV

Most recent cases

Mayadeen district, Deir Ez-Zor
 Onset of paralysis: 6 June 2017, age: 8 months, vaccination status: 1 OPV/zero IPV
Tell Abyad district, Raqqa
 Onset of paralysis: 25 April 2017, age: 97 months, vaccination status: 3 OPV/1 IPV

Affected districts

Mayadeen and Tell Abyad districts

Immunization response

Two rounds planned for Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa. First rounds in both governorates are expected to commence 22 July.

Characteristics of the cVDPV2 cases

Median age: 15 months
 Gender ratio male-female: 1:2
 Vaccination status of the cases:
 • IPV: 4 cases (15%) received IPV
 • OPV: 30% zero dose, 48% have received 1-2 doses

Distribution of non-polio AFP (NPAFP) and vaccine-derived poliovirus type-2 (VDPV2), Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates, 2017

| Gov. | Deir Ez-Zor | | Raqqa | |
|--------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | Total AFP | VDPV2 | Total AFP | VDPV2 |
| Jan | 2 | | 2 | |
| Feb | 11 | | 3 | |
| Mar | 8 | 2 | 1 | |
| Apr | 13 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| May | 28 | 16 | 3 | |
| Jun | 20 | 3 | 3 | |
| Jul | 5 | | | |
| Total | 87 | 26 | 14 | 1 |

governorate since the beginning of 2017 is 87 (66 from Mayadeen, 10 from Deir Ez-Zor, and 11 from Boukamal districts). Raqqa governorate has reported 14 AFP cases (6 from Raqqa, 7 from Tell Abyad, and 1 from Thawra districts).

Immunization response activities

Two immunization rounds are planned for July and August targeting children <5 years of age in Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. The southern part of Shadadi district in Hasakah governorate is also included and will be covered by Deir Ez-Zor teams.

First round—Deir Ez-Zor

- Vaccine: mOPV2, total target: 328,000 (196,000 resident children and 110,000 refugee and IDP children in Deir Ez-Zor governorate, and 22,000 children in Shadadi).
- A total of 355 vaccination teams and 61 supervisors are on standby for this activity. Campaign strategy is house to house in the affected villages and fixed posts in other areas. There are 5 vaccine distribution centers with adequate cold chain in Boukamal, Hajien, Husienieh, Mayadeen, and Sor.

First round—Raqqa

- Vaccine: shipping of mOPV2 from Damascus scheduled for this week, total target: 120,000 (109,500 resident children and 10,500 IDP children).
- 100 locally selected vaccination teams and 21 team supervisors will implement the campaign. There are 2 vaccine distribution centers with adequate cold chain in Tell Abyad hospital and Tabqa health center.

Coordination and surge support

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

Communications for Development (C4D) and social mobilization activities

Deir Ez-Zor

- 250 mobilizers—largely university students, male and female— have been engaged in the dissemination of campaign material in public places. Campaign posters were placed at markets, village entrances and main roads. Campaign date announcements have been made via bakeries: 6 shops in Boukamal and 4 in Mayadeen.
- Training of campaign C4D zonal leaders, and Mayadeen, Boukamal and Hajien vaccinators took place 12-14 July. The workshop was also attended by social mobilization teams from Deir Ez-Zor, and Maadan in Raqqa. Work plans were produced and a guide for vaccinators and health educators was made available in Arabic, to participants.
- Door-to-door sensitization visits and community meetings started 15 July. A radio public service announcement on campaign dates began airing the same day. A radio dialogue featuring a Q&A on polio vaccine and campaigns has been prepared.
- Data collection on vaccine acceptance and reasons for refusal started on 15 July. A team of 12 data analysts in Deir Ez-Zor will analyze data after reports are collected from different locations. Strategies for addressing refusals are being developed which will guide field teams on how to record, track and follow up on refusal cases to ensure no children are missing.

Raqqa

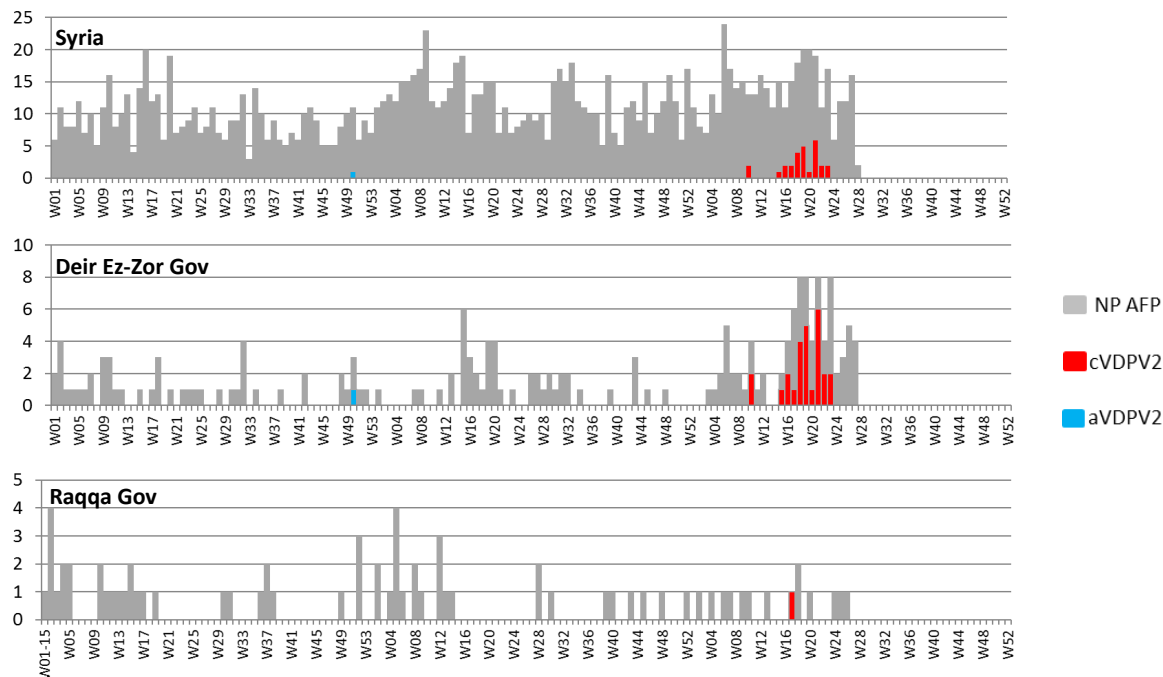
- Social mobilization micro-plans have been drafted and activities are expected to start one week before the immunization round.
- Campaign print materials have been delivered to Hasakah. Other C4D materials including campaign t-shirts carrying C4D messages, to be used by vaccinators, are being prepared. Twenty-five megaphones will be sent to Raqqa via Hasakah for use in the second round.
- A radio PSA is being developed for airing.

Vaccine management

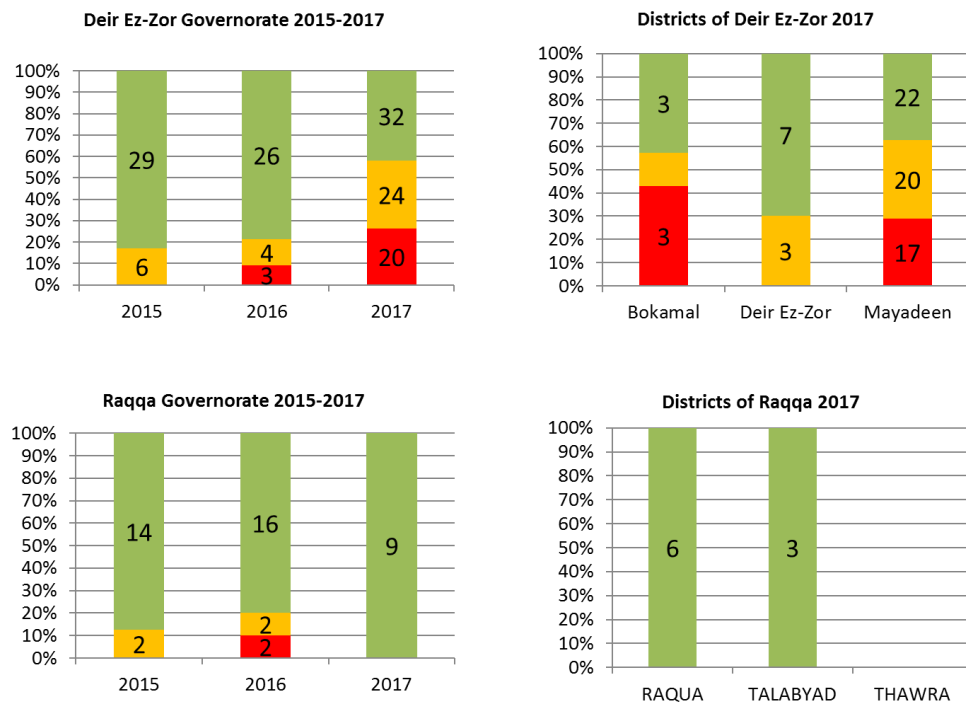
Vaccine has been distributed to six distribution centers in Deir Ez-Zor as follows:

| District | mOPV2 Quantities (vaccine vials) |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mayadeen الميادين | 122,572 |
| Boukamal البوكمال | 91,000 |
| Hajien هجين | 44,000 |
| Deir Ez-Zor دير الزور | 56,754 |
| Husienieh الحسينية | 46,673 |
| Sor الصور | 16,201 |
| Total | 377,200 |

EPI Curve NPAFP & VDPV2 Cases, 2015-2017 (up to 17 July 2017)



Vaccination status (OPV+IPV) AFP cases* aged 6-59 months (up to 17 Jul 2017)



* VDPV2 cases are included



Vaccines being transported across rugged terrain to Deir Ez-Zor. Photos: WHO



Notes inserted into bread packages to help inform community members of upcoming campaign activities. Deir Ez-Zor. Photo: UNICEF



Vaccines arriving in Deir Ez-Zor, in good condition. Photos: WHO

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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