

# Syria cVDPV2 outbreak Situation Report # 7

1 August 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

- Three (3) new cases of cVDPV2 were reported this week. The total number of cVDPV2 cases is 30 (29 cases are from Mayadeen district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate, and 1 case from Tell Abyad district, Raqqa governorate).
- Poliovirus type-2 (PV2) has been isolated from an additional 6 stool samples collected from acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases in Deir Ez-Zor. These samples have been sent to polio reference laboratories for further testing and sequencing.
- The first mOPV2 round was carried out successfully in Deir Ez-Zor governorate between 22–26 July. A total of 259,958 children under 5 years of age were vaccinated, representing overall administrative coverage of 79%.
- Independent post campaign monitoring took place 29-30 July. Results reflect coverage of 88.4% (percentage of children vaccinated, gauged by caregiver recall).
- Empty and unused mOPV2 vials were collected after the round for safe storage. The majority of the vials were accounted for: 15,800 empty and 3,022 unused. 37 empty vials were lost or broken in the field.
- The second immunization round for Deir Ez-Zor is being planned for 19-23 August. IPV, for use in the second round, reached Beirut on 31 July.
- The total number of AFP cases detected in Deir Ez-Zor governorate since the beginning of 2017 is 91 (69 from Mayadeen, 10 from Deir Ez-Zor, and 12 from

### Summary

New cVDPV2 cases this week: 3  
 Total number of cVDPV2 cases: 30  
 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: 16 June 2017, age: 16 months, vaccination status: zero OPV/zero IPV

**Tell Abyad district, Raqqa**  
 Onset of paralysis: 3 May 2017, age: 14 months, vaccination status: 4 OPV/1 IPV

### Affected districts

Mayadeen and Tell Abyad districts

### Immunization response

Two rounds each planned for Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. First round in Deir Ez-Zor completed on 26 July.

### Characteristics of the cVDPV2 cases

Median age: 15 months  
 Gender ratio male-female: 1:2  
 Vaccination status of the cases:

- IPV: 5 cases (17%) received IPV
- OPV: 33% zero dose, 43% have received 1-2 doses

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

Gov.	Deir Ez-Zor		Raqqa	
	AFP	cVDPV2	AFP	cVDPV2
Jan	2		2	
Feb	11		3	
Mar	7	2	1	
Apr	12	5	2	1
May	28	16	2	
Jun	19	6	3	
Jul	12		2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>

Boukamal districts). Raqqa governorate has reported 15 AFP cases (5 from Raqqa, 9 from Tell Abyad, and 1 from Thawra districts).

## Immunization response activities

The national response plan includes two immunization rounds each in Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. Deir Ez-Zor activities include the southern part of Shadadi district in Hasakah governorate.

### *Deir Ez-Zor*

- The first mOPV2 round was carried out successfully in Deir Ez-Zor governorate between 22-26 July. A total of 259,958 children under 5 years of age were vaccinated, representing overall administrative coverage of 79%. Among the children vaccinated, 24% were under 12 months of age.
- Mayadeen district—the epicenter of the outbreak—achieved a 94% vaccination rate (administrative data). This is partly attributed to high levels of community sensitization in the area. Other salient points:
  - Mayadeen was the only district to implement both house-to-house and fixed center vaccination
  - 48% of the total number of vaccination teams in Deir Ez-Zor were deployed to Mayadeen district (100 mobile and 70 fixed center teams)
  - WHO visited teams on a daily basis to oversee activities
- Independent post campaign monitoring took place 29-30 July. Results reflect coverage of 88.4% (percentage of children vaccinated, out of target population, gauged by caregiver recall).
- The second round in Deir Ez-Zor is being planned for 19-23 August. Both mOPV2 and IPV will be used in the second round. IPV reached Beirut on 31 July.

### *First round—Raqqa*

- Vaccine was shipped from Damascus to Qamishli on 18 July.

## 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 assist in 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*

- Social mobilization concluded 28 July due to the extension of activities in Abou Hardoub district.
- Sensitization visits took place before and during the first round and included house-to-house visits, meetings with elders, and meetings with women. Social mobilization activities held during the round helped to bring more children to health center vaccination sites.
- Data on refusal cases was collected pre-, intra- and post-campaign, with lists made of children not vaccinated. A report will be produced in early August. Refusal cases were minimal owing to pre-campaign sensitization. All refusal cases were visited by social mobilizers and influencers.
- Leaflets distributed through bakeries to announce the immunization round were effective and had wide reach.

### *Raqqa*

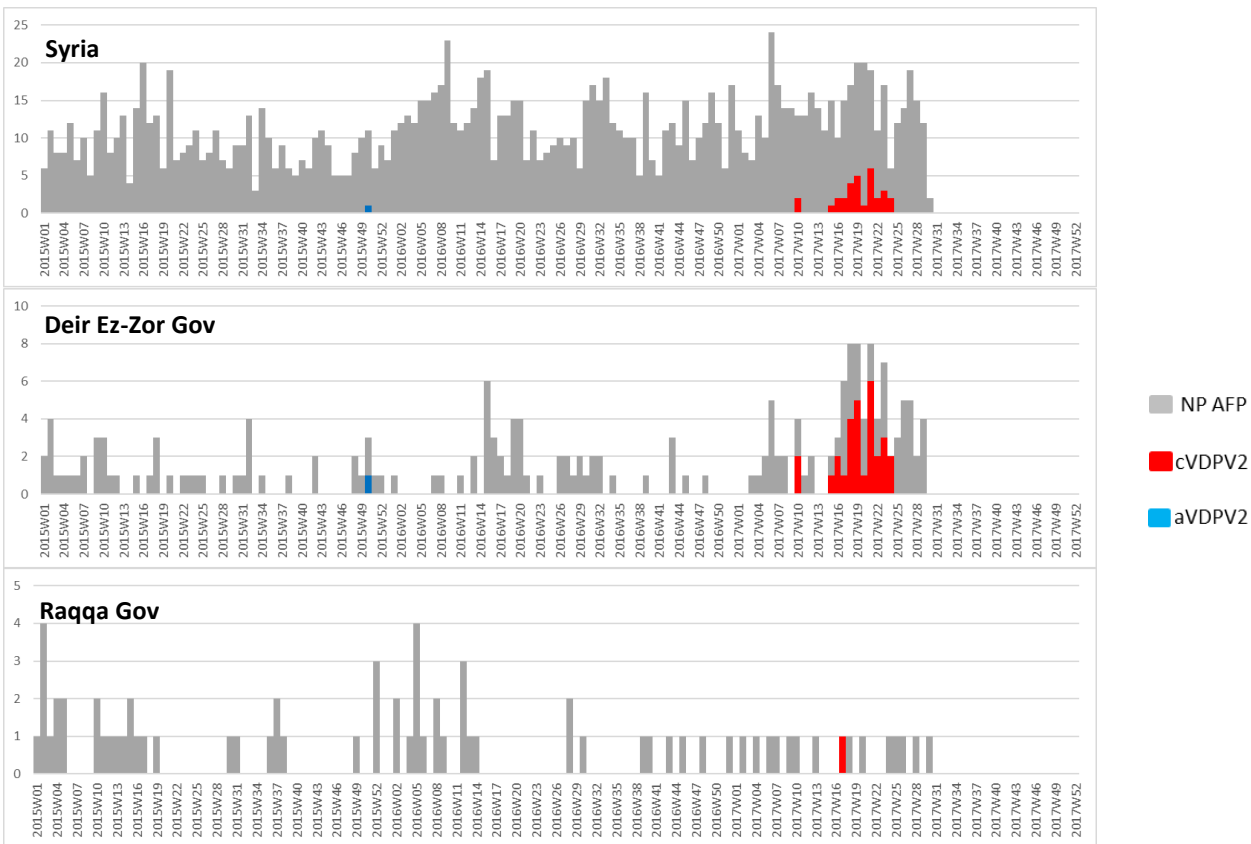
- Social mobilization activities started on 27 July across all the campaign target areas; 220 health educators and volunteers participated.

- Social mobilization data collected so far reveals a low rate of vaccine refusal in Raqqa. Among the 29,434 people who have been visited by health educators, 118 are refusal cases. Key messages have been developed to counter arguments for refusal and have been shared with mobilizers for communication with concerned caregivers.

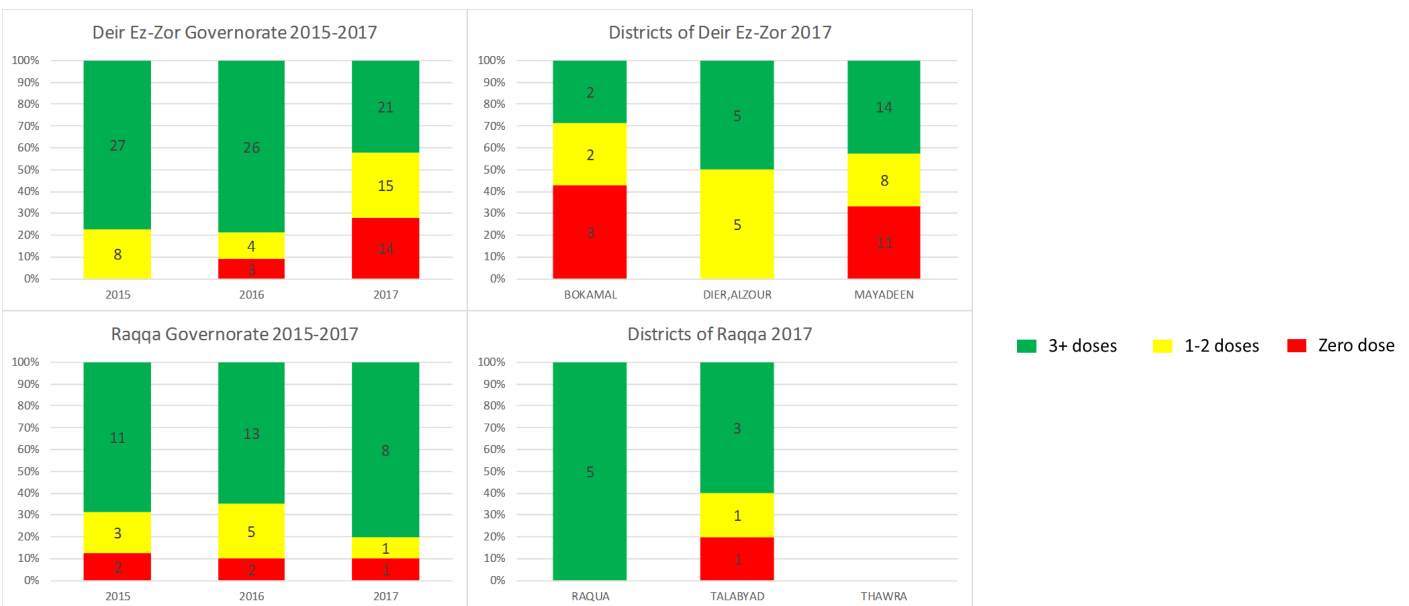
## Vaccine management

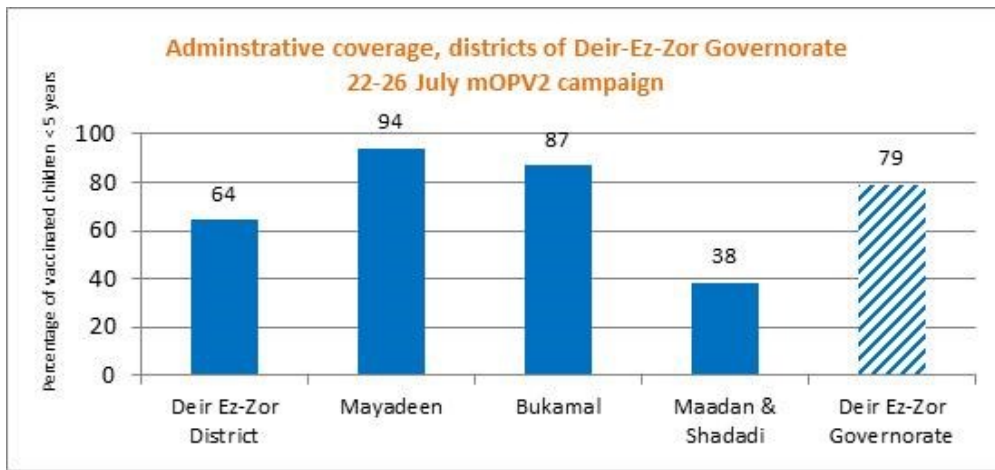
- A total of 377,000 mOPV2 doses were sent to Deir Ez-Zor; the remaining quantity after the first round is 60,260 doses. Additional mOPV2 stock has been requested for the second round.
- 138,000 mOPV2 doses were sent to Qamishly, for Raqqa.

### EPI Curve NPAFP and VDPV2 cases, 2015-2017 (up to 31 July 2017)



### Vaccination status (OPV) of NPAFP cases aged 6-59 months





## 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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