

Syria cVDPV2 outbreak Situation Report # 9

15 August 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

- Three (3) new cases of cVDPV2 were reported this week from three new districts: 1 case from Deir Ez-Zor district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate; 1 from Boukamal district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate; and 1 from Tadmour district, Homs governorate.
- Five districts in three governorates are now infected.
- The total number of cVDPV2 cases is 33 (this includes the previously reported 29 cases from Mayadeen district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate, and 1 case from Tell Abyad district, Raqqa governorate). All confirmed cases to date have had onset of paralysis before 11 July 2017.
- Final lab results for an additional 9 poliovirus type-2 (PV2) isolates from Deir Ez-Zor are pending.
- Discussions around expanding the scope of the immunization response to include accessible areas of a Tadmour sub-district in Homs, bordering Deir Ez-Zor, will be held in light of the confirmation of the cases in this area.
- Raqqa governorate commenced its first immunization round on 12 August (Raqqa and Thawra districts) and 13 August (Tell Abyad district). The immunization round aims to reach 120,000 children under five years of age. Preliminary information suggests the rounds are reaching children in all three districts.
- Preparations continue for the second round in Deir Ez-Zor governorate, scheduled for 19-23 August. IPV for use in the second rounds in Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates has arrived in Damascus.
- The total number of AFP cases detected in Deir Ez-Zor governorate since the

Summary

New cVDPV2 cases this week: 3
Total number of cVDPV2 cases: 33
Outbreak grade: 3

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 cases

- Tadmour district, Homs governorate**
Onset of paralysis: 10 July 2017, age: 24 months, vaccination status: 1 OPV/zero IPV
- Deir Ez-Zor district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate**
Onset of paralysis: 30 June 2017, age: 27 months, vaccination status: 5 OPV/1 IPV
- Boukamal district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate**
Onset of paralysis: 25 June 2017, age: 16 months, vaccination status: 1 OPV/2 IPV

Affected districts

Mayadeen, Deir Ez-Zor, Boukamal (Deir Ez-Zor);
Tell Abyad (Raqqa); Tadmour (Homs)

Immunization response

Two rounds each planned for Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. First round in Raqqa started 12 August. First round in Deir Ez-Zor held 22-26 July. Second round scheduled for 19-23 August.

Characteristics of the cVDPV2 cases

Median age: 15 months, gender ratio male-female: 1:2, vaccination status:

- IPV: 7 cases (21%) received IPV
- OPV: 30% zero dose, 45% 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	
Mth	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	12	8	4		3	
Jul	17		2		7	1
Aug	15					
Total	82	31	15	1	25	1

Data as of 14 August 2017

beginning of 2017 is 113 (83 from Mayadeen, 11 from Deir Ez-Zor, and 19 from Boukamal districts). Raqqa governorate has reported 16 AFP cases (5 from Raqqa, 10 from Tell Abyad, and 1 from Thawra districts). Homs governorate has reported 26 AFP cases (11 from Homs city, 12 from Rastan, 1 from Tadmour and 2 from Talkalakh districts).

- The Eradication and Outbreak Management Group (EOMG) has approved the release of additional doses of IPV to cover high risk population groups in northwest Syria, Turkey and Lebanon. Lebanon requested 144,000 doses and has begun to implement IPV campaigns across the country.

Immunization response—Syria

- The national response plan currently 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. Discussions around expanding the scope of the immunization response to include accessible areas of a Tadmour sub-district in Homs, bordering Deir Ez-Zor, will be held in light of the confirmation of the cases in this area.
- IPV for use in the second rounds in Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates has arrived in Damascus.

First round—Raqqa

- Raqqa governorate commenced its first immunization round on 12 August (Raqqa and Thawra districts) and 13 August (Tell Abyad district). The immunization round aims to reach 120,000 children under five years of age. Preliminary information suggests the rounds are reaching children in all three districts.
- Twenty supervisors and 200 vaccinators are implementing the house-to-house campaign. A total of 350 social mobilizers and community influencers are working in villages and IDP camps.
- An additional three vaccine distribution centers have been established to support campaign activities. All centers have proper cold chain equipment. WHO has provided fuel to run generators for at least 16 hours per day, to support cold chain.
- Around 60 cars are transporting staff and vaccines from vaccine distribution centers to field locations.
- Independent intra-campaign monitoring started on the first day of the round.

Second round—Deir Ez-Zor

- Preparations continue for the second round in Deir Ez-Zor governorate, scheduled for 19-23 August. Supplies being readied include additional mOPV2, IPV, communications materials and chlorine tablets.

Communications for Development (C4D) and social mobilization activities

Raqqa

- Social mobilization activities continue and limited numbers of refusal cases have been reported.

Deir Ez-Zor

- Analysis of data on vaccine refusal cases reported during the first round has taken place. Social mobilization microplans are being adjusted in accordance with data obtained from third party independent monitoring and household visits by health education workers.

Regional response

- The Eradication and Outbreak Management Group (EOMG) has approved the release of additional doses of IPV to cover high risk population groups in northwest Syria, Turkey and Lebanon. Lebanon requested 144,000 doses and has begun to implement IPV campaigns across the country.

Coordination and surge support

- WHO and UNICEF have deployed additional human resources (surge support) to both hubs since the start of the outbreak. 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.



Distribution of vaccine and movement of cars to the field, Raqqa. Photo: WHO



Vaccinators administering mOPV2 to children in Raqqa on the first day of the campaign. Photo: WHO



Vaccinators and social mobilizers travel from house-to-house during the campaign, Raqqa. Photo: WHO



WHO monitoring campaign activities, Raqqa. Photo: WHO



Young girl shows her marked finger, which indicates she has been vaccinated during the campaign, Raqqa. Photo: WHO



Child being vaccinated with mOPV2, Raqqa. Photo: UNICEF

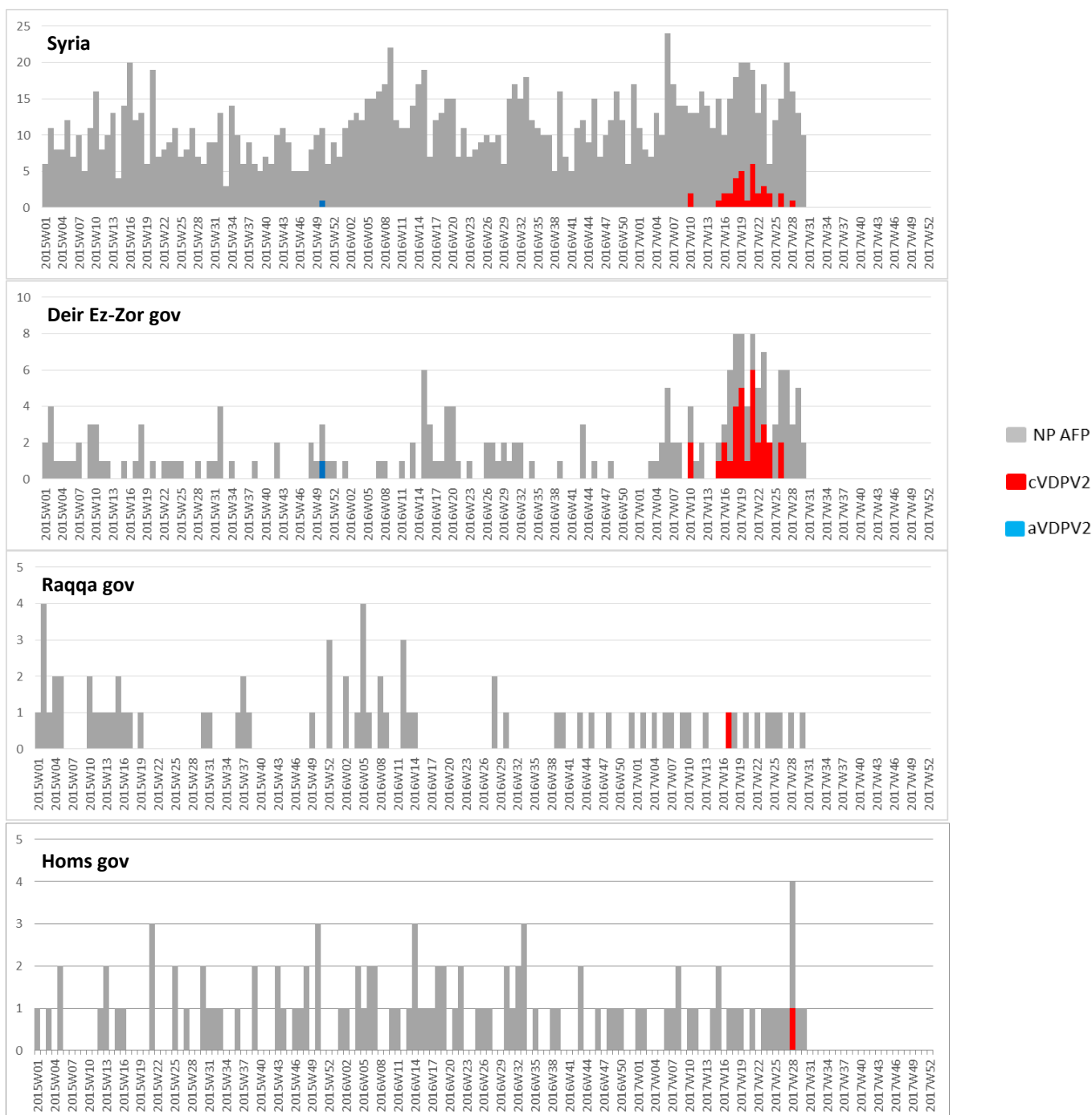


Mobile vaccination teams arriving to administer mOPV2 to children under five, Raqqa. Photo: UNICEF



10,500 refugee and IDP children are included in Raqqa campaign microplans. Photo: WHO

EPI Curve NPAFP and VDPV2 cases, 2015-2017 (up to 14 August 2017)



Vaccination status (OPV) NPAFP cases aged 6-59 months (up to 14 August 2017)



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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