

Syria cVDPV2 outbreak Situation Report # 6

25 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

- No new cVDPV2 cases reported this week. The total number of cVDPV2 cases remains 27 (26 cases are from Mayadeen district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate, and 1 case from Tell Abyad district, Raqqa governorate).
- The first mOPV2 vaccination round in Deir Ez-Zor started on 22 July. A total of 59,051 children under the age of five were vaccinated on the first day of the campaign.
- Given high temperatures, WHO has arranged for local ice-cream factories to assist in the daily freezing of ice packs.
- Community mobilization activities continue throughout the campaign. Household visits have focused on addressing vaccine refusal through use of community influencers.
- In addition to administering mOPV2, vaccination teams are searching for AFP cases during campaign days. An AFP case detected during vaccination visits in Mayadeen district is under investigation.
- The total number of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases detected in Deir Ez-Zor governorate since the beginning of 2017 is 89 (67 from Mayadeen, 10 from Deir Ez-Zor, and 12 from Boukamal districts). Raqqa governorate has reported 14 AFP cases (6 from Raqqa, 7 from Tell Abyad, and 1 from Thawra districts).

Summary

New cVDPV2 cases this week: 0
 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: 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 started on 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	
	NPAFP	VDPV2	NPAFP	VDPV2
Jan	2		2	
Feb	11		3	
Mar	7	2	1	
Apr	12	5	2	1
May	28	16	3	
Jun	19	3	3	
Jul	10			
Total	89	26	14	1

Immunization response activities

Two immunization rounds each are planned for Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. Deir Ez-Zor activities include the southern part of Shadadi district in Hasakah governorate.

First round—Deir Ez-Zor

- The first round in Deir Ez-Zor (22-27 July) has begun with 355 vaccination teams administering mOPV2 to children under five years through fixed site vaccination posts and house to house visits. On the first day of the campaign, a total of 59,051 children were vaccinated. Among these, 23% of children were under 12 months of age.
- Community acceptance is high in Deir Ez-Zor, particularly in the Subaikhan area—the epicenter of the cVDPV2 outbreak—due to extensive communication activities. However, WHO is monitoring fixed site vaccination team performance.
- Given high temperatures in the field (at times above 50°C), provision of adequate quantities of frozen ice packs for vaccine storage and transport is a challenge. In order to supply the required 1,500 frozen ice packs to all vaccine distribution centers, WHO has arranged for local ice-cream factories to assist in the daily freezing of ice packs.

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

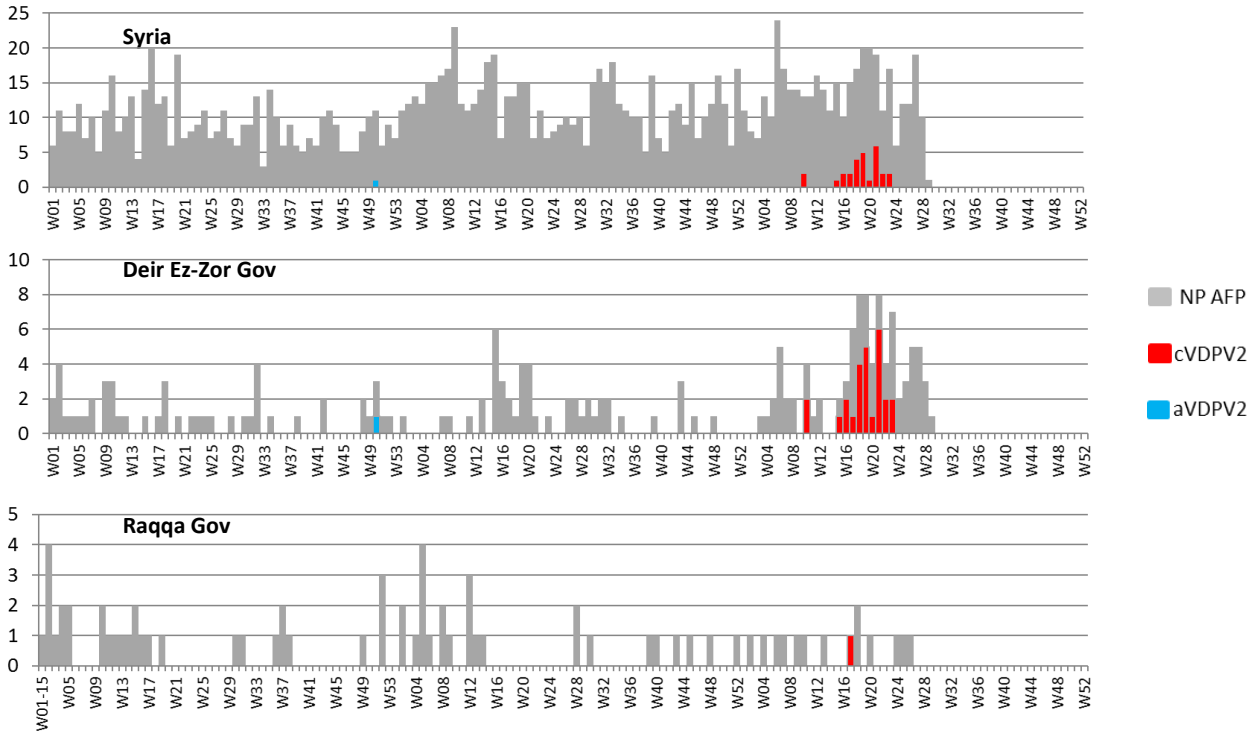
Deir Ez-Zor

- Social mobilization activities continue during the polio campaign.
- Refusal cases have been minimal during the first few days of the campaign owing to pre-campaign sensitization. Refusal cases are being addressed daily through liaison with influencers and dissemination of messages tailored to the concerns of caregivers.

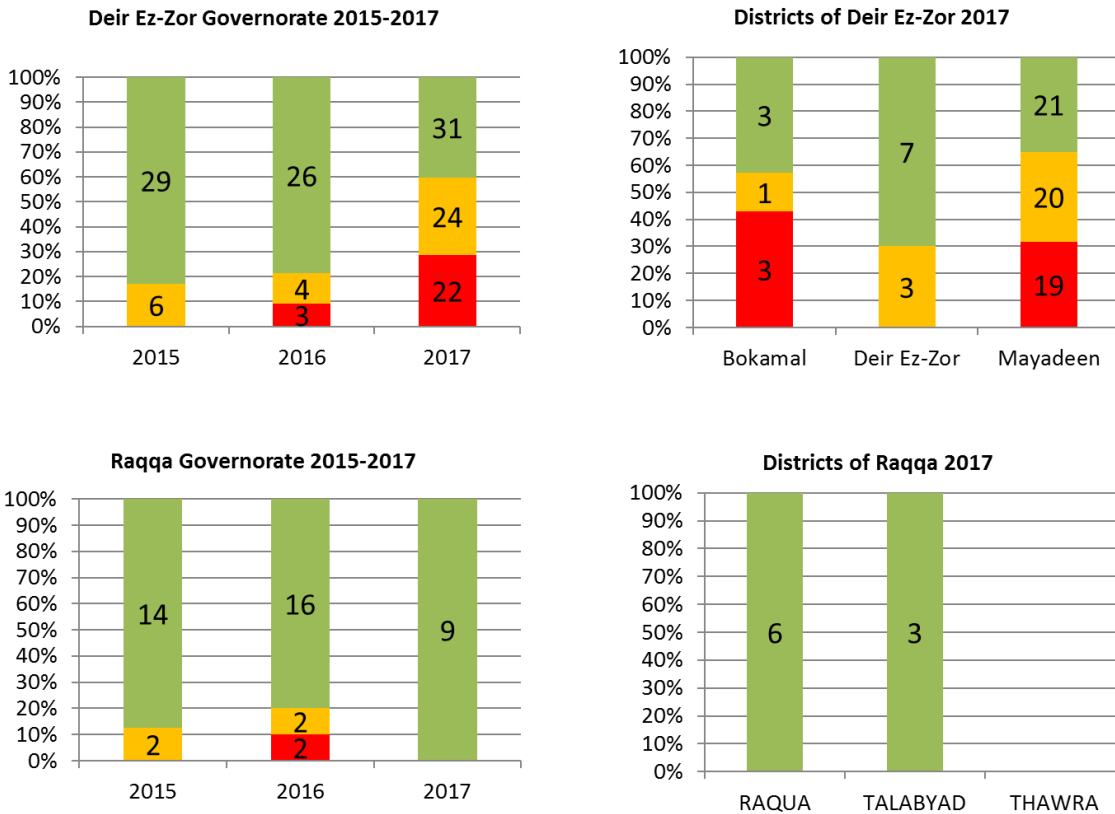
Raqqa

- Training of social mobilization teams began 22 July. Micro-plans for campaign implementation have been finalized and shared with mobilization teams. A total of 240 mobilizers are being engaged.
- Campaign IEC materials have been pre-positioned at key campaign locations and will be disseminated when house to house and community visits take place.

EPI Curve NPAFP & VDPV2 Cases, 2015-2017 (up to 24 July 2017)

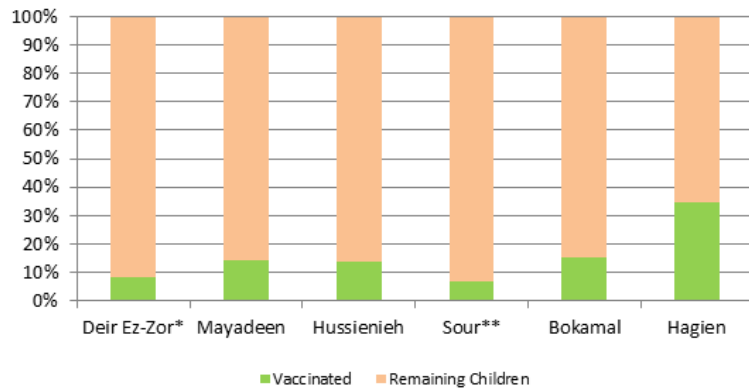


Vaccination status (OPV+IPV) AFP cases* aged 6-59 months (up to 24 July 2017)



* VDPV2 cases are included 3+ doses 1-2 doses Zero dose

Children vaccinated by health district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate, SIAs July 2017- Day-1



Banner to raise awareness of campaign, Deir Ez-Zor.
Photo: UNICEF



Preparations of vaccine cool boxes ahead of the campaign in Deir Ez-Zor. Photo: WHO



Fixed site vaccination, health facility, Deir Ez-Zor.
Photo: 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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