

Weekly Surveillance Report Up to 14/03/2007

1. Training on the findings and recommendations of the internal AFP surveillance review

39 MoH, Ministry of High Education and WHO national staff participated in the AFP surveillance training workshop held in Amman during the period 25-28 February 2007. All provinces except Anbar participated in the workshop. 3 senior pediatricians from the medical city that contains 3 specialized pediatric hospitals attended the workshop. ..

- Detailed guidelines on how to propose and put forward AFP and measles surveillance work plans for the upcoming 9 month were provided to all surveillance officers. All DoH Surveillance focal points are expected to complete their work plans and submit them as follows:
 - a. The DoH of Basra, Missan, Thiqr and Muthanan will submit their plans to be reviewed by Dr. Samson and Dr. Ahmed Shawi before sending to Amman.
 - b. Mosul, Kirkuk, Erbil and Dohuk will submit work plans to Dr. Salah Rahim and Dr. Yassin. (Sulymanai work plan has been completed and submitted)
 - c. Babil, Kerbala and Najaf will submit to Dr. Usama Harab.
 - d. The remaining DoH will submit their plans to Dr. Yosra, Dr. Adnan and Dr. Faris Lami for review before sending to Amman.
 - e. The training meeting for Anbar EPI and surveillance staff is expected to take place in Amman during the period 1-4 April.

2. Overdue laboratory results:

- The attached table shows that this week there are 4 cases as compared to 11 cases last week, with overdue laboratory preliminary results despite the passage of more than 35 days. The delay as explained in previous messages is due to delay in sending of stool sample to NPL.
 - IRQ BG 07 004 case, FIRST stool samples was collected after 11 days of ONSET. While IRQ DU 07002 first stool was collected after 19 days of onset. IRQMU07002 was sent to npl after 18 days of onset. IRQNJ07002 was sent to NPL after 10 days of onset. The delay in receiving results is due to delayed sending of stool specimen to NPL.
 - Period between stool collection and sending to NPL for IRQ BG 07002 is 10 days.

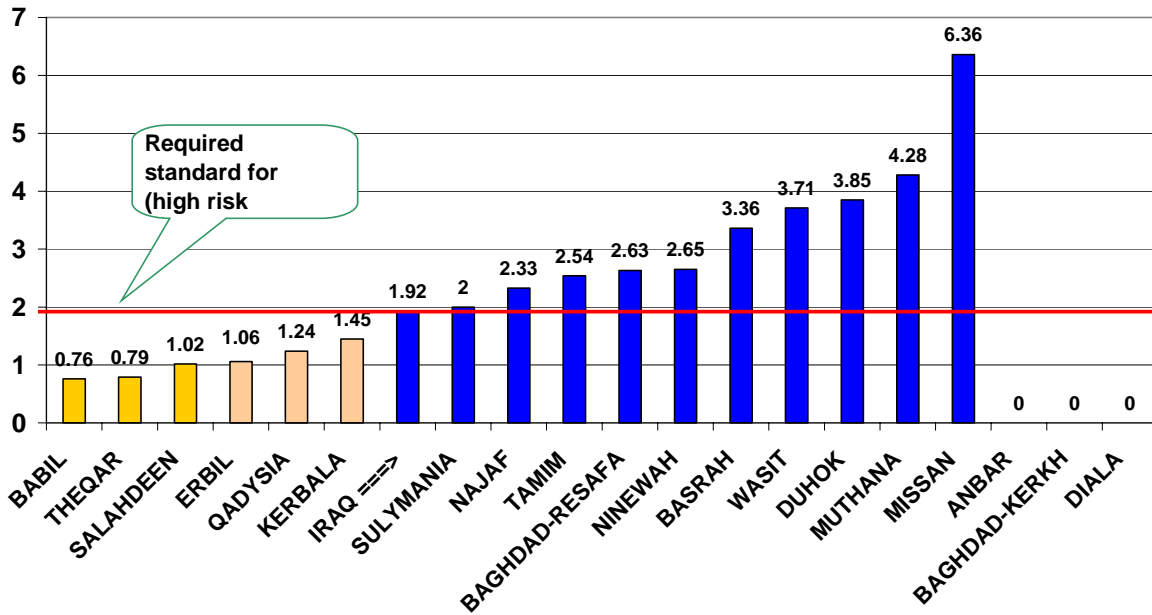
Percent of AFP cases with period between date of notification and date of investigation <= 2 days (TARGET = 80%)

INDICATOR	Freq	Percent	Cum.
1. TARGET: 0-2 DAYS	33	71.7%	71.7%
2. 3+ DAYS	12	26.1%	97.8%
3. UNKNOWN	1	2.2%	100.0%
Total	46	100.0%	

Only 72% of cases were investigated within 72 hours of notification during the first 9 weeks of 2007 compared to 89% in 2006. This shows a very clear deterioration in the timely investigation of reported cases

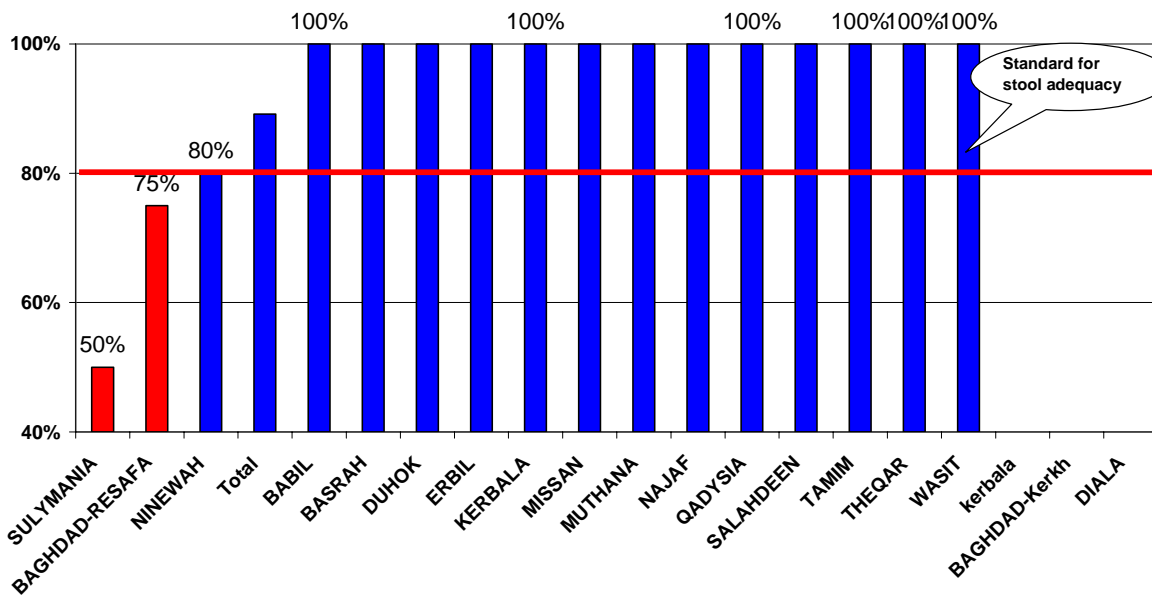
5. **Annualized AFP:** During the first 9 weeks of 2007, 46 cases were reported from 16 DoHs, while 3 are silent. The annualized AFP rate of \Rightarrow 1.92 per 100,000 under 15 year population (please consult the attached AFP rate and AFP graph) have been attained for the country as a whole and another 10 DoHs. Please consult the below figure

Annualized AFP rate by province, 2007 up 24/02



- 6. Reported monthly AFP:** The number of AFP cases reported in January 2007 (25 cases) is equal to what was reported in 2004, however it is less than what was reported during the same month in 2005 and 2006. Only 18 cases were reported in February 2007 compared to 44 last year.
- 7. OVERDUE FOLLOW-UP RESULTS;** This week no AFP cases are pending follow despite elapse of more than 75 days since date of on set
- 8. Stool adequacy,** the attached table and chart show that all DoH that reported cases during the month of January and February have achieved the standard target of => 80% except Sulymania (50%) and Baghdad Resafa (75%).

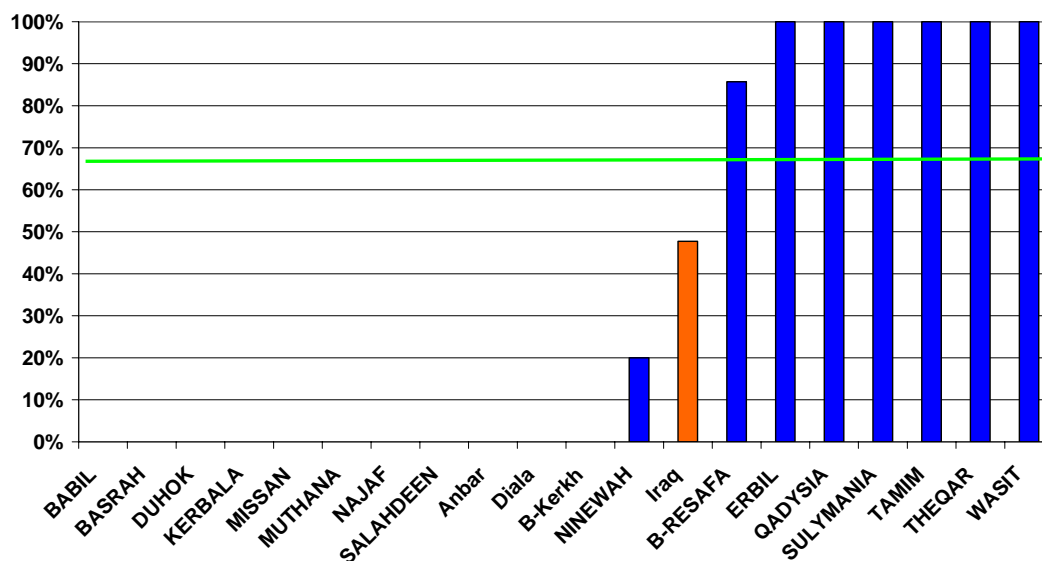
Percent AFP cases with 2 stools specimens collected within 14 days of onset and at least 24 hours apart by prvince, up to 14/03/2007
Target 80%



- 9. Period between stool collection and sending to NPL in Baghdad:** During the first 9 weeks of 2007 only 44% of stool samples reached the NPL in =< than 3 days. Only 7 DoH sent >= 80% of stool

samples to NPL in <= 3 days. We hope by adopting the new policy of sending stool samples with Taxi drivers; the problem will be solved. Please consult below chart.

% stool samples reaching the NPL in <= 3 days, Iraq, first 9 weeks 2007



10. Overdue classification, Thanks to the coordinated efforts of all surveillance staff all 2006 cases have been finally classified.

11. Please note that we are sending by the next pouch a CD that contain all the presentations of the training workshop on AFP/measles surveillance held in Cairo last week. This CD contains important presentations that can be used for the training of district and hospital focal point staff on AFP and measles surveillance. The CDs will be sent as follows:

- The 3 NGs; Mosul and Kirkuk to receive their CD from Dr. Yassin in Erbil.
- The lower south to receive their CD from Dr. Samson in Basra
- Babil. Najaf, Karbala, Qadisyis and Wasit to receive their CD from Dr. Harba in Babil
- The remaining DoHs receive their CD from EPI/MoH Dr. Mutaaz.

Warmest regards