

## Weekly Surveillance Report Up to 28/03/2007

### 1. Overdue laboratory results:

- The attached table shows that this week there is one case (IRQ WA 07 003) as compared to 3 cases last week, with overdue laboratory preliminary results despite the passage of more than 35 days. The NPL have sent the isolate and original stool of this case to VACSERA, however neither the NPL preliminary result nor date of referral to VACSERA were entered in the Laboratory recfile. National polio lab should immediately enter the preliminary result into the data base once it is obtained, It is noted that on many occasion that neither the date of the NPI results nor The date of referral of specimens to VACSERA is entered.

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

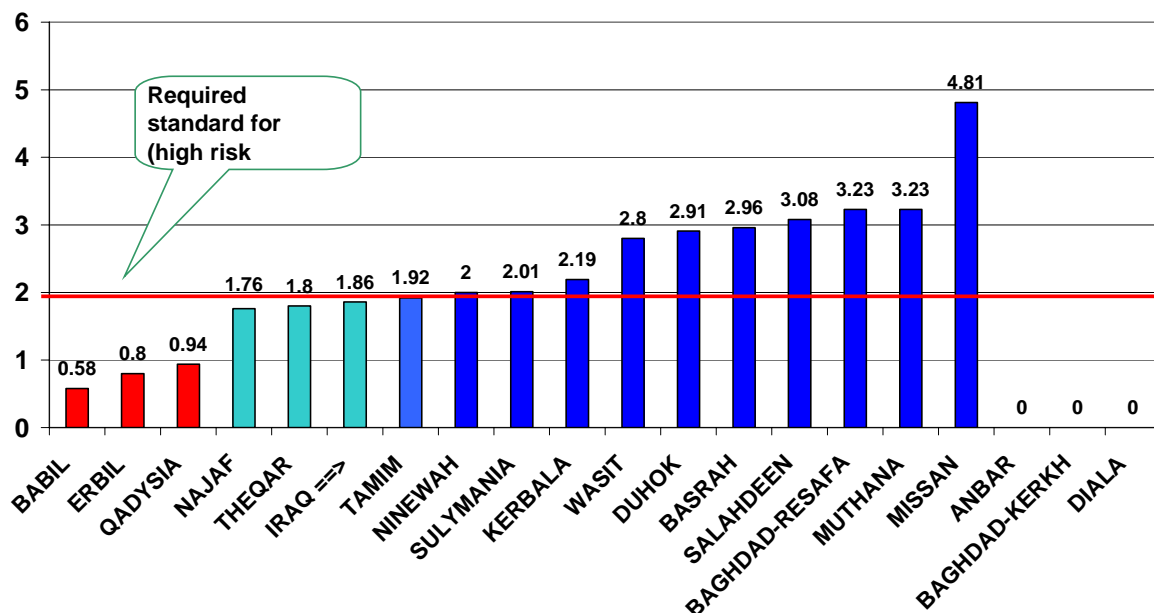
INDICATOR	Freq	Percent	Cum.
1. TARGET: 0-2 DAYS	44	74.6%	74.6%
2. 3+ DAYS	14	23.7%	98.3%
3. UNKNOWN	1	1.7%	100.0%
Total	59	100.0%	

Only 75% of cases were investigated within 72 hours of notification during the first 10 weeks of 2007 compared to 89% in 2006. This shows a very clear deterioration in the timely investigation of reported cases.

### 3. Annualized AFP:

During the first 10 weeks of 2007, 59 AFP cases were reported from 16 DoHs, while 3 remained silent. The annualized AFP rate of => 1.86 per 100,000 under 15 year population (please consult the attached AFP rate, AFP graph and the below table) have been attained for the country as a whole and another 12 DoHs.

**Annualized AFP rate by province, 2007 up 24/02**



**The annualized AFP rate is still below the expected especially in:**

- Babil and Erbil which are expected to report 3 AFP cases each; but reported only one case each.
- Najaf is expected to report 3 AFP cases but reported 2.
- Theqar is expected to report 4 AFP cases but reported 3.
- Qadysia is expected to report 2 AFP cases but reported only one case.

Please consult the below figure

**Expected and reported AFP cases by province up to 28/03/2007**

Iraq / Province	Adj. pop	Reported AFP Cases	Achieved AFP Rate/100,000 <15	Expected AFP cases
<b>BABIL</b>	<b>173308</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.58</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>ERBIL</b>	<b>125326</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>QADYSIA</b>	<b>106395</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NAJAF</b>	<b>113518</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1.76</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>THEQAR</b>	<b>166495</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>IRAQ ==&gt;</b>	<b>3170956</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>1.86</b>	<b>63</b>
TAMIM	104132	2	1.92	2
NINEWAH	299808	6	2	6
SULYMANIA	198901	4	2.01	4
KERBALA	91320	2	2.19	2
WASIT	106978	3	2.8	2
DUHOK	103112	3	2.91	2
BASRAH	236439	7	2.96	5
SALAHDEEN	129874	4	3.08	3
BAGHDAD-RESAFA	403033	13	3.23	8
MUTHANA	61841	2	3.23	1
MISSAN	104014	5	4.81	2
<b>ANBAR</b>	<b>154171</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>BAGHDAD-KERKH</b>	<b>334910</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>DIALA</b>	<b>157381</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

**4. Activities in silent Areas**

**a. Baghdad Kerkh:**

The national AFP surveillance officer (Dr. Yosra), The national CD surveillance officer (Dr. Adnan) and NPL staff have succeeded last week in conducting an advocacy meeting in Baghdad Kerkh for clinicians and a training/workshop on AFP surveillance for AFP district staff and hospital focal points. The attendance was excellent and was beyond expectations. EPI manager and national AFP surveillance officer are well aware of the importance for the intensification of these training and advocacy meetings and making sure that all clinicians are sensitized, updated and well oriented to the fact that Baghdad kerkh that host 12% of Iraq population is still silent and the poor surveillance activities in this important DoH has negatively affected the AFP surveillance quality in the country as a whole.

**b. Anbar:**

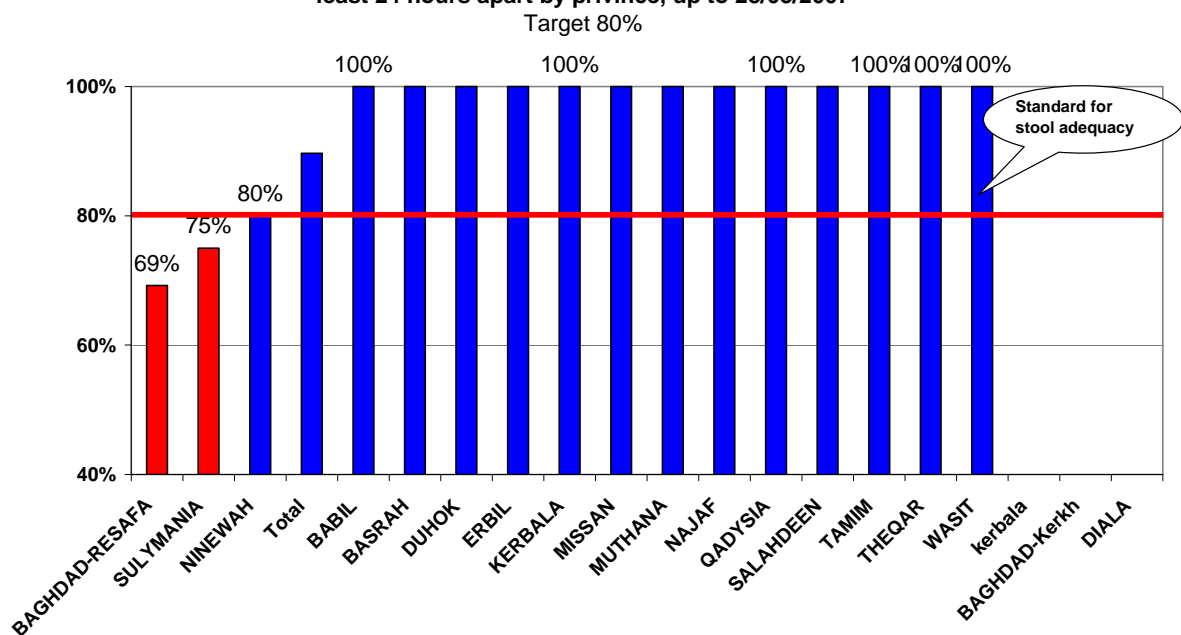
The long waited training meeting for Anbar staff in Amman scheduled on 01/04/2007 will be delayed to a later date due to the difficulty met by many of Anbar staff in processing their requests for issuing passports. I hope both Dr. Ihsan and Dr. Mutaaz will pursue the possibility of conducting this meeting in Erbil in order to avoid the problems of passports and at the same time invite Diala staff to attend the meeting.

**c. Diala**

This week for the first time EPI national manager and WHO were able to contact via e-mail the EPI manager in Diala in addition to the district directors. The national EPI manager was requested to use the e-mail to follow up with EPI manager of Diala and district directors and discuss with them the possibility of organizing monthly training meetings in Erbil. Holding such meeting in Baghdad is rather difficult while holding them in Amman needs travel documents that most of the field staff may not have.

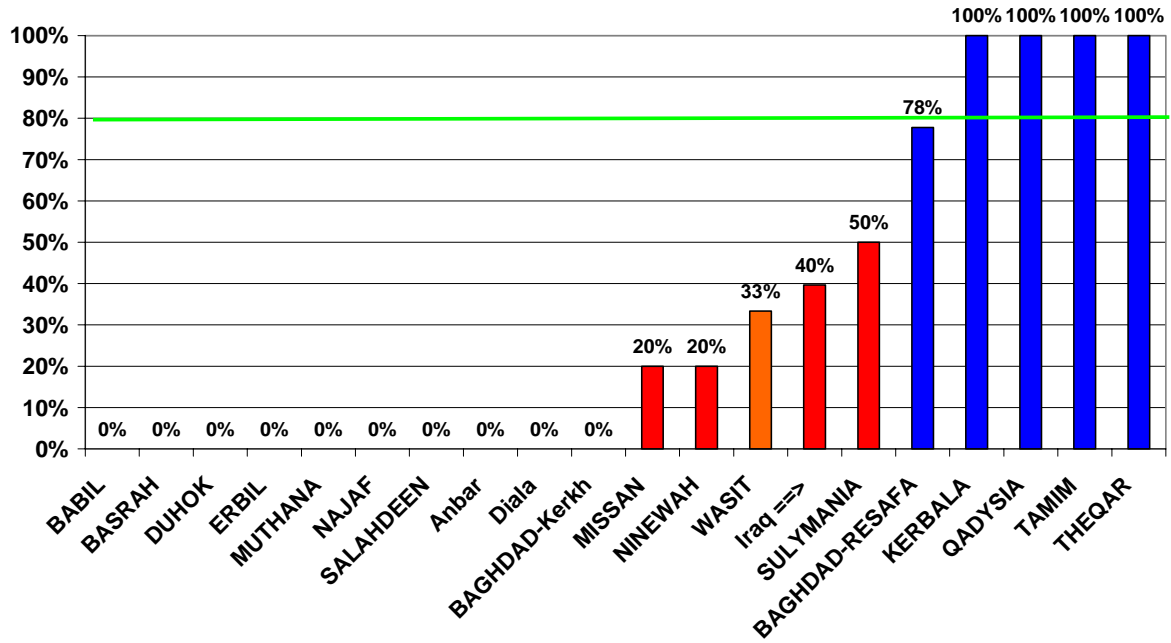
5. **Reported monthly AFP:** The number of AFP cases reported in January 2007 (25 cases) is equal to what was reported in 2004, however it is less than what was reported during the same month in 2005 and 2006. 19 AFP cases were reported in February 2007 compared to 28, 21 and 44 during the same month in 2004, 2005 and 2006. The number of cases reported up to 21/03/2007 is 15 which is equal to what was reported during the same period in 2006 and better than what was reported during the same period (10) in 2004 But less than what was reported in 2005 (17 cases)
6. **OVERDUE FOLLOW-UP RESULTS;** This week one AFP case IRQ BS 07004 is still pending follow despite elapse of more than 75 days since date of on set
7. **Stool adequacy,** the attached table and below chart show that all DoH that reported cases during the months of January; February and first 3 weeks of March have achieved the standard target of => 80% except Sulymania (75%) and Baghdad Resafa (69%).

**Percent AFP cases with 2 stools specimens collected within 14 days of onset and at least 24 hours apart by province, up to 28/03/2007**



8. **Period between stool collection and sending to NPL in Baghdad:** During the first 10 weeks of 2007 only 40% of stool samples reached the NPL in =< than 3 days. Only 5 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 10 weeks 2007



9. Overdue classification, Thanks to the coordinated efforts of all surveillance staff all 2006 cases have been finally classified. None of the cases reported in 2007 is pending classification.
10. Please note that we have sent by 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