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Highlights 1–30 September 2018

- WHO is working with the Ministry of Health to respond to patients presenting with gastrointestinal illnesses in Bashra primarily through sample collection, transportation and testing at a WHO collaborating center to help identify the cause of the outbreak. Cholera outbreak preparedness, WHO has provided 16 cholera kits to Basra and neighbouring governorates, developed, and distributed posters with algorithms for laboratory methods and clinical case management.

- To respond to the critical health needs of returnees in west Mosul, WHO supported Ninewa governorate to relocate two field hospitals from Athba and Haj Ali to west Mosul. The hospitals will provide general surgical services for emergency patients and reproductive health services.

- WHO and UNICEF in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Directorate of Health (DOH) Sulymania, two hundred and three thousands, nine hundred and ninety-five (203 995) out of 213 640 children were vaccinated against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) in campaign carried out in Sulymania governorate in September.

- In Erbil, WHO supported the DOH to repair seven ambulances that had mechanical defaults to ensure continued referrals of patients that require emergency treatment.

- To ensure the rapid critical gap are filled, WHO supported the Blood Bank Centre and Ibn Sina hospital in Mosul with different laboratory equipment and reagents including refrigerated centrifuge, blood collection tubes, microscope slides among other supplies.

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