

## Highlights

- ❖ The reporting timeliness of Early Warning and Alert Response System, (EWARS) of Darfur for the current week was 78.6%. The health service utilization rate for this week 17 was 1.9 visits/person/year.
- ❖ In Red Sea state, 13 suspected cases of Acute Jaundice Syndrome (AJS) were reported during this week.
- ❖ Total number of 262 cases of suspected meningitis were reported, from all Northern states, with 10 deaths (CFR 3.8%).

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This weekly epidemiological bulletin is published jointly by the FMOH of the Government of Sudan and WHO. This bulletin is built upon surveillance data that are reported, every week, by the health services providers to the Disease Early Warning System of Darfur which presently cover over 90% of IDP settlements in the region. The Weekly Morbidity and Mortality Bulletin (WMMB) provides a snapshot of weekly trend of epidemic prone diseases that are registered in the health facilities serving the IDPs in Darfur and other parts of Sudan as well. The bulletin does not, however, cover health information from areas where no health services are currently offered to the IDPs in Darfur.

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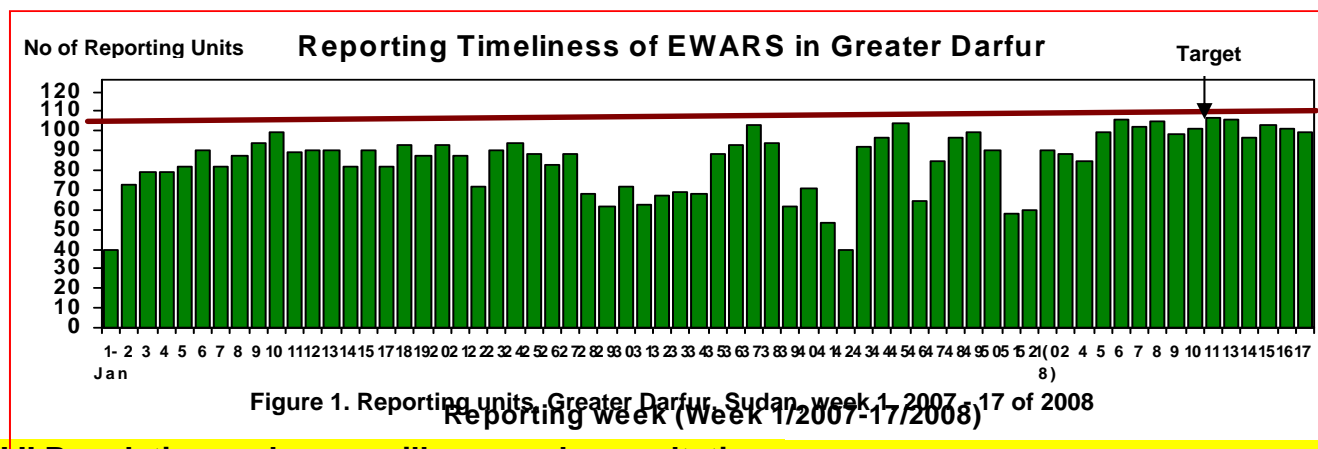
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## I. Darfur

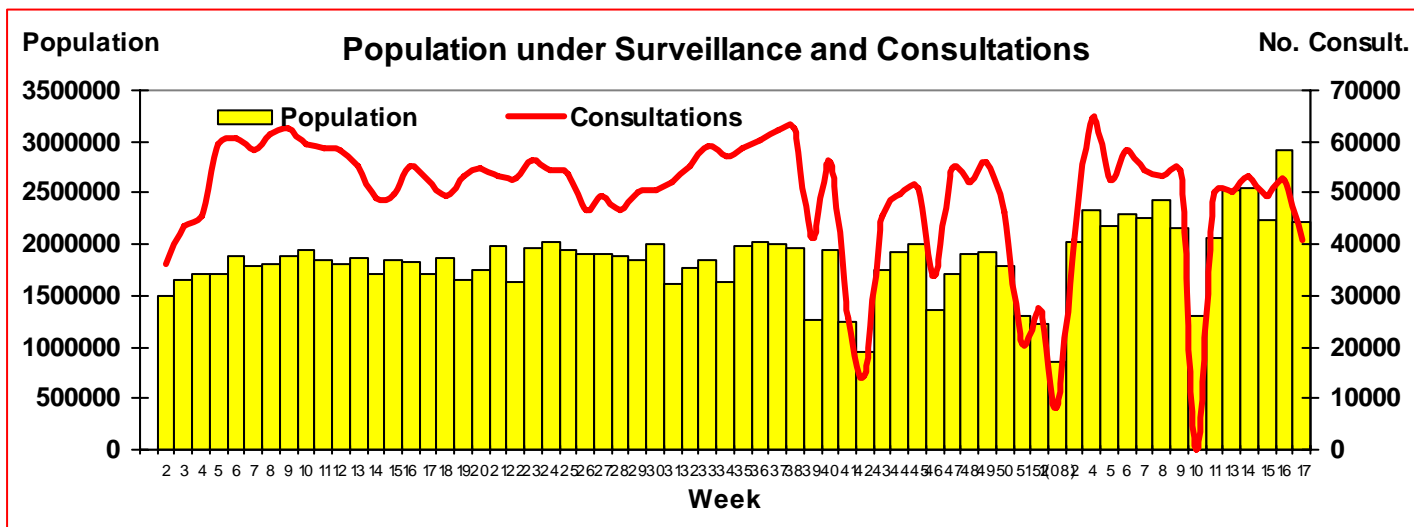
### I.I Reporting timeliness

For this week 17 of the year 2008 (25 April -1 May 2008), 99 of 126 reporting units (78.6%) of the **Early Warning and Alert Response System (EWARS)** of Darfur have sent their surveillance data on time. The “benchmark” for reporting timeliness of EWARS, in order to periodically monitor the quality of the surveillance performance of EWARS, has been set at 85%. Due to various challenges including security, accessibility and communication problems, the target still remains to be achieved.



### I.II Population under surveillance and consultations

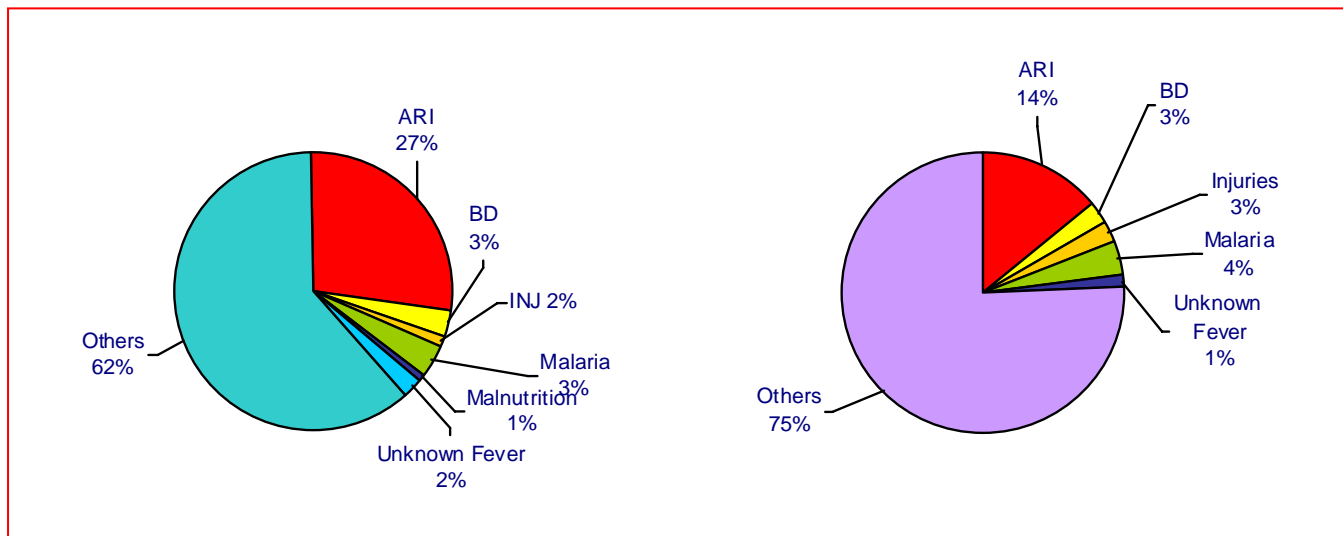
The total number of **consultations** reported throughout Greater Darfur this week was 41,013 (Figure-2) which shows decrease of 21,9% compared to the total consultations reported in the previous week (W16) (52494). the total number of **population under surveillance** for the current reporting week was 2209255, which shows decrease of 24.2% compared with the last week (2913569 reported in week 16). The health service utilization rate for this week 17 was 1.9 visits/person/year.



### I.III Proportionate morbidity and mortality of reported health events

During this week, a total of 41,013 health events under surveillance were reported from Darfur. Of these 15313 health events (37.3%) were reported in less than 5 year age group while the remaining 25700 health Events (62.7%) were reported in the above 5 year age group (Fig. 3). In the above 5 year age group, 14.1% of reported cases were attributed to **Acute Respiratory Tract Infection (ARI), Clinically Diagnosed**

**Malaria** contributed 3.8% while **Bloody Diarrhoea** 2.8% of all reported cases. By comparison, 27.2% of reported cases in the under 5 year age group were attributed to **Acute Respiratory Tract Infection (ARI)** followed by **Clinically Diagnosed Malaria** .3.5% and **Bloody Diarrhoea** 2.9%.



**Cases: Under 5 year age group (n = 15313)**

**Cases: Above 5 year age group (n = 25700)**

**Figure 3: Proportional morbidity of all reported cases, Greater Darfur, Sudan, week17, (2008).**

During the same period, there were 13 **reported** deaths in all age groups, 8 of them were reported in the below 5 year age group due to other causes. In above 5 years age group were 5 deaths, 1 due to malaria and the others attributed due to other causes.

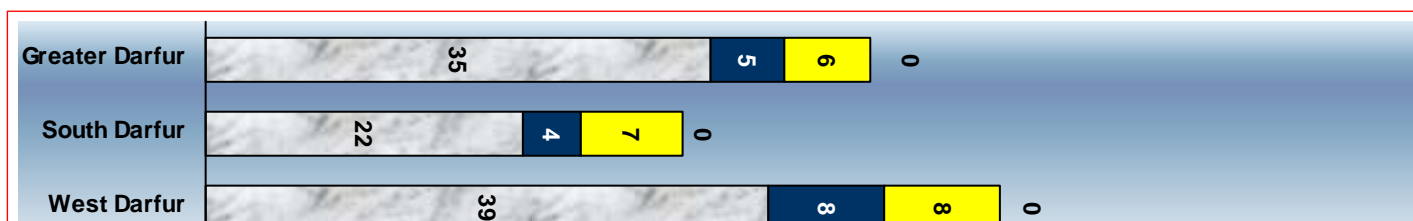
**I.IV Weekly incidence rate of selected endemic diseases**

During this week, the case load of selected endemic diseases was usual given the seasonality of these diseases reported earlier from Greater Darfur. West Darfur this week reporting the lowest incidence rate of ARI, while North Darfur reported the lowest incidence of Malaria and bloody diarrhoea.

**Table-1: Cases and weekly incidence rate of selected endemic diseases reported from Darfur (Epidemiological week 17, 2008)**

Diseases	North Darfur		West Darfur		South Darfur	
	Cases	IR (cases/10,000)	Cases	IR (cases/10,000)	Cases	IR (cases/10,000)
Acute Respiratory Infection	3125	56	2218	39	2423	22
Bloody Diarrhea	223	4	449	8	486	4
Clinically Diagnosed Malaria	211	3	493	8	789	7
Acute Jaundice Syndrome	5	0	8	0	17	0

**Figure 4. Reported weekly incidence rate of selected communicable diseases Sudan 25April -1May, 2008.**



**I.V Surveillance for Measles**

From week 15/2005 to date, the EWARS has notified **672** clinically diagnosed measles cases from Greater Darfur with 4 deaths. During the current week there were no reported cases.

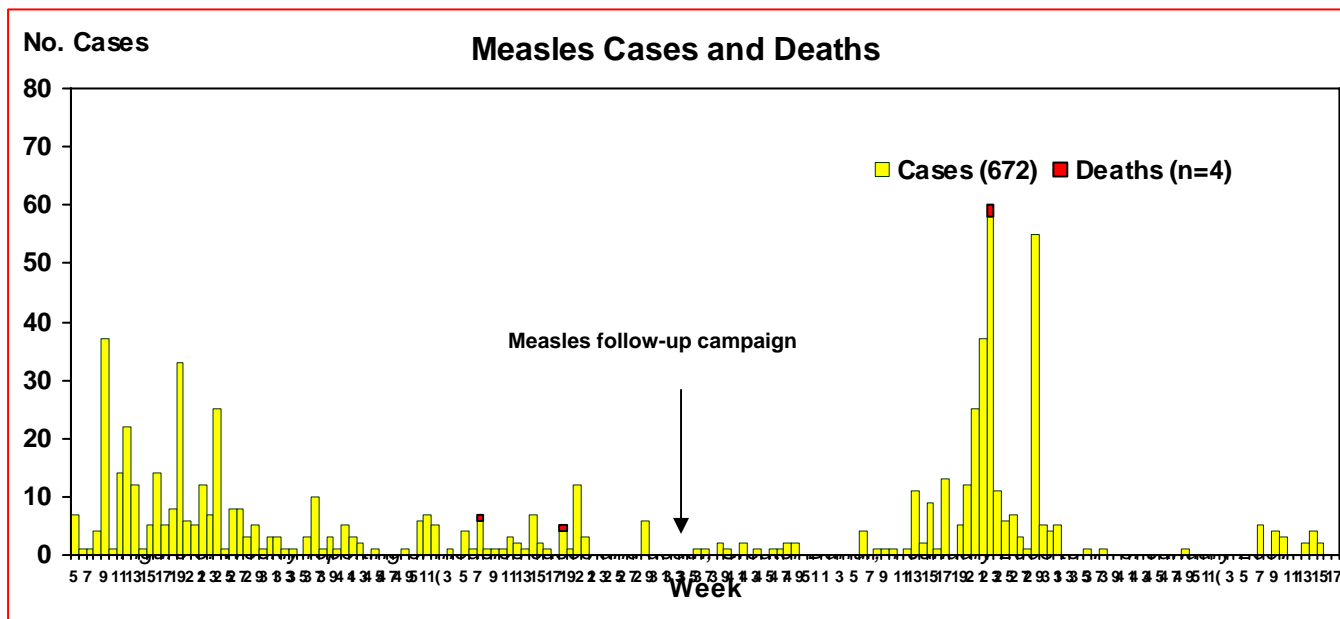


Figure 5. Weekly reporting of measles cases and death, Greater Darfur, week5/ 2005 to week 17/2008

**I.VI Surveillance for Malaria**

With the preparedness of high risk season for malaria in Darfur, epidemiological surveillance for malaria has been enhanced throughout Greater Darfur. The weekly attack rate of malaria for the current epidemiological week was observed to be **1.5 cases per 1000** (Figure 6) which is higher than mean attack rate (1.37 cases per 1000) of malaria observed during 2007 & 1.22 which has been observed during 2006.

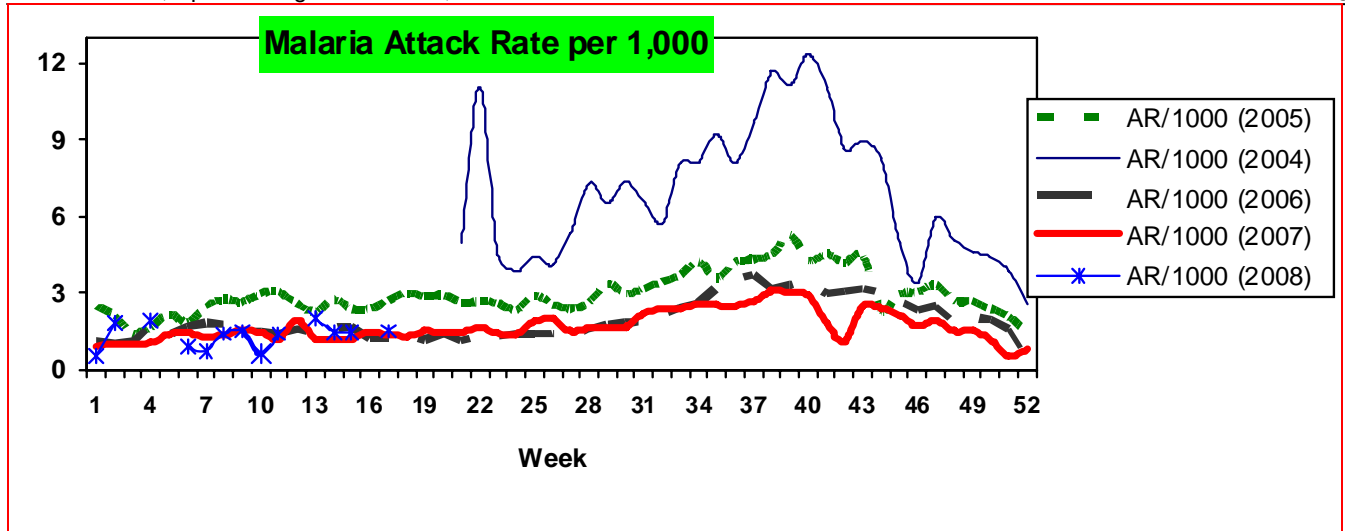


Figure 6: Comparison of current attack rate of Malaria with historical value, Greater Darfur, Sudan

### I.VII Surveillance for Bloody Diarrhoea

The attack rate of bloody diarrhoea, observed during the current week, was 12 cases per 10,000 which is higher than the mean attack rate (5 cases per 10,000) for 2007 (Figure-7). West and South Darfur have been reporting higher rates as compared to North Darfur. The mean attack rate for 2005 and 2006 was respectively 13.3 and 7.46 per 10,000.

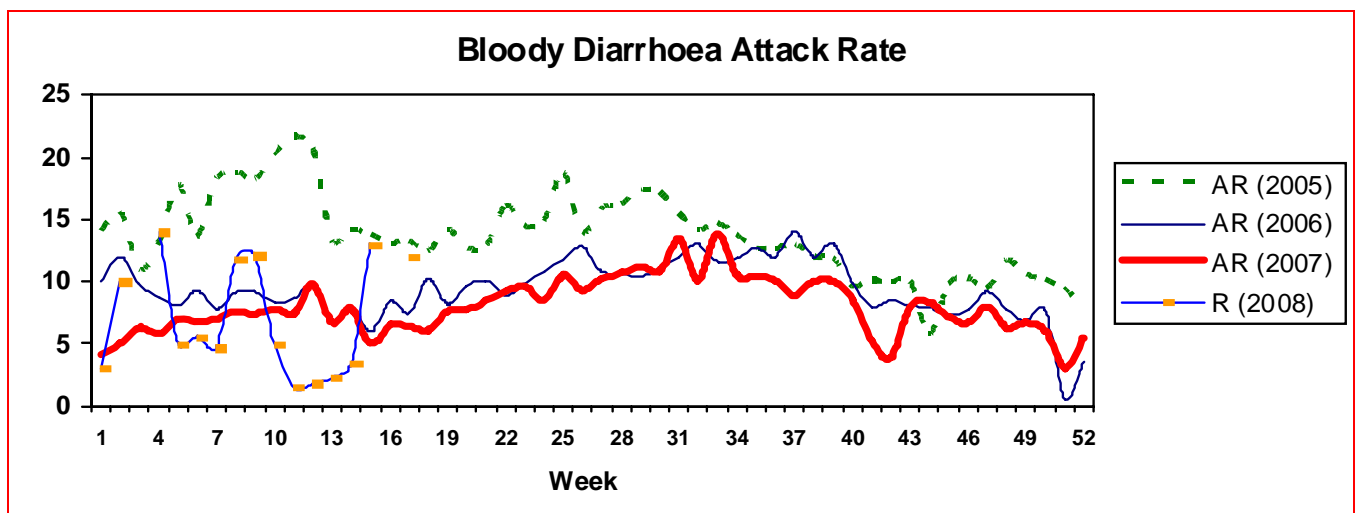


Figure 7: Comparison of current attack rate of Bloody Diarrhoea with historical value, Greater Darfur, Sudan

## II. East Sudan:

### II. I Kassala:

Total no of suspected meningitis reported since 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2008, is 20 with 2 deaths

### II.III Gedaref:

Total no of suspected meningitis reported since the beginning of the season is 4.

### II.III Red Sea

13 suspected cases of Acute Jaundice Syndrome (AJS) were reported during this week. A total no of 66 suspected cases of AJS were reported, since 26<sup>th</sup> of February, with 4 deaths. 15 samples were collected and sent to National Public Health Laboratory of which 1 sample was positive for Hepatitis E virus, 7 were negative and the rest is pending for results.

### ***III. Meningitis update:***

Since week no. 1/2008, a total number of 262 cases of suspected meningitis were reported from all Northern states with 10 deaths (CFR 3.8%). This week, one sector reached epidemic threshold in Northern Kordofan (Abuzabad). Vaccination campaign was conducted in the period 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2008, where 60407 of the population, 2-30 years of age, were reached. This campaign was supported by Unicef. Active case finding is going on across North Kordofan state. Buffer stock at the country level, as of the end of week 17/2008 is as follows: 191650 doses of bivalent vaccine, 122175 of trivalent vaccine, 224 meningitis kits, 1820 TI medias and 4250 rapid test sets available at the central level.