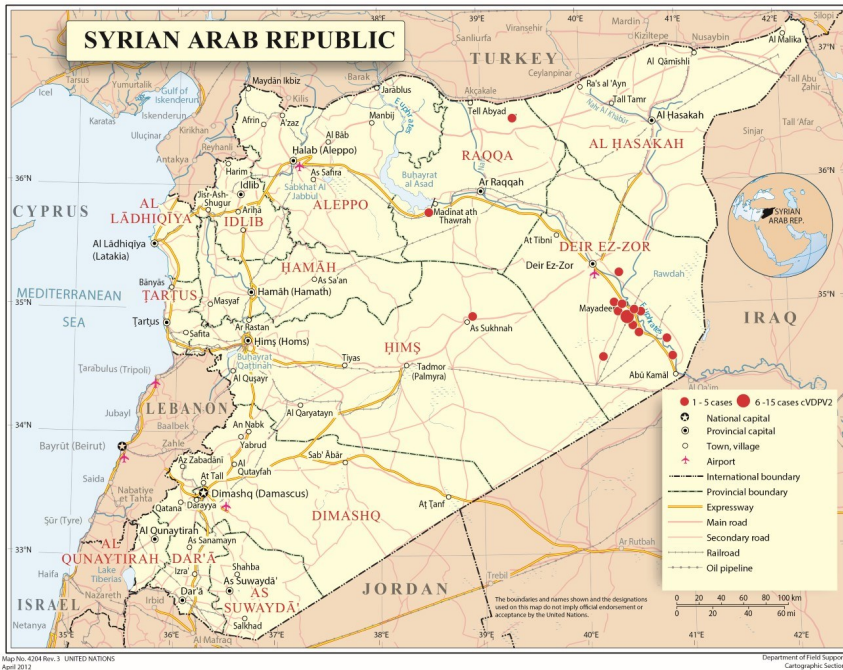


Syria cVDPV2 outbreak Situation Report # 17

10 October 2017

cVDPV2 cases in Deir Ez-Zor, Raqqa and Homs 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

- One (1) new case of cVDPV2 was reported this week from Mayadeen district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate. The case, a 19-month-old child with no history of polio vaccination, had onset of paralysis on 19 August.
- The total number of confirmed cVDPV2 cases is 48.
- The second immunization round for Raqqa commenced 7 October. mOPV2 is being administered to children 0-59 months of age, and IPV to children aged between 2-23 months. Aqua tabs are being provided to families together with vaccination.
- Initial reports indicate that vaccination has started in all three districts of Raqqa (Tell Abyad, Raqqa and Thawra).

Immunization response

- The national response plan currently includes two immunization rounds each in Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. Deir Ez-Zor activities include the southern part of Shadadi district in Hasakah governorate. The first and second rounds for Deir Ez-Zor have been completed (22-26 July, 22-28 August), as well as the first round for Raqqa (12-17 August).

Summary

New cVDPV2 cases this week: 1
 Total number of cVDPV2 cases: 48
 Outbreak grade: 3

Infected governorates and districts

Governorate	District	Number of cVDPV2 cases to date
Deir Ez-Zor	Mayadeen	39
	Deir Ez-Zor	1
	Boukamal	5
Raqqa	Tell Abyad	1
Homs	Thawra	1
	Tadmour	1

Index case

Location: Mayadeen district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate

Onset of paralysis: 3 March 2017, age: 22 months, vaccination status: 2 OPV doses/zero IPV

Most recent case (by date of onset)

Location: Mayadeen district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate

Onset of paralysis: 19 August 2017, age: 19 months, vaccination status: zero OPV/zero IPV

Characteristics of the cVDPV2 cases

Median age: 16 months, gender ratio male-female: 3:5, vaccination status:

- IPV: 9 cases (19%) received IPV
- OPV: 33% zero dose, 46% have received 1-2 doses

Distribution of non-polio AFP (NPAFP) and circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type-2 (cVDPV2), Deir Ez-Zor, Raqqa and Homs governorates, 2017

Mth.	Deir Ez-Zor		Raqqa		Homs	
	NPAFP	cVDPV2	NPAFP	cVDPV2	NPAFP	cVDPV2
Jan	2		2		2	
Feb	11		3		4	
Mar	5	2	1		2	
Apr	7	5	1	1	4	
May	13	16	2		3	
Jun	8	12	3	1	3	
Jul	10	6	2		8	1
Aug	33	4			6	
Sep	4		2		3	
Total	93	45	16	2	35	1

Raqqa

- The second immunization round for Raqqa commenced 7 October. mOPV2 is being administered to children 0-59 months of age, and IPV to children aged between 2-23 months. Aqua tabs are being provided to families together with vaccination.
- Initial reports indicate that vaccination has started in all three districts of Raqqa (Tell Abyad, Raqqa and Thawra).
- A total of 160 mobile and 30 fixed vaccination teams are implementing the campaign. Thirty-two team supervisors and five senior coordinators are managing field activities.
- Community leaders in Raqqa have been engaged in all districts to assist in the monitoring of vaccination activities and to help facilitate access of vaccination teams. Community leaders are reporting directly to vaccination teams, supervisors, and the polio control room in Tell Abyad.
- Reserve mOPV2 stocks are being stored in Thawra to cater for population influxes, as part of contingency plans. An additional 60 vaccination teams are on standby for contingency activities.
- Vaccination teams have been trained on reporting cases of AFP. A team in rural Tell Abyad has reported an AFP case during the round; the AFP case is under investigation.

Deir Ez-Zor

- IPV vaccination for children missed in the second Deir Ez-Zor round continues through local health centers.

Other governorates

- IPV campaign activities aiming to reach children aged between 2-23 months in areas of Aleppo and Idlib governorates are ongoing. The campaign started 30 September.
- Screening of IDPs from infected areas continues, with active searches for AFP cases conducted among new arrivals. Collection of stool samples from healthy children to boost surveillance, and provision of additional doses of IPV to children from infected areas, continues.

Regional response

- IPV vaccination activities continue at border points in Lebanon and Turkey.
- Independent monitoring results are pending for the recent bOPV-IPV campaign conducted in accessible areas of Anbar governorate, Iraq, which borders Syria.

Coordination and surge support

- A polio control room is functional in Tell Abyad, with direct communication with staff in the field. Daily reporting of campaign activities to the control room is taking place.
- WHO and UNICEF have deployed additional human resources (surge support) to both hubs since the start of the outbreak. 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. Since the start of the outbreak, Regional Offices of both organizations have held weekly calls with hubs to ensure coordination at all levels.

Communications for Development (C4D) and social mobilization activities

- Communication activities continue throughout the second round in Raqqa.
- 250 social mobilizers have supported round activities through household visits, community meetings, and liaison with pediatricians to ensure positive perceptions of vaccines.
- A total of 36,000 caregivers and influencers were reached via face-to-face communication activities in the lead-up to the round. 40,000 campaign date announcements were disseminated, with megaphones used in camps and remote locations. A local radio station has regularly aired campaign announcements.

Surveillance summary

- The country and all governorates but two are meeting both key indicators for AFP surveillance: 3 or more non-polio AFP cases per 100,000 children below 15 years of age, and 80 percent or above AFP cases with adequate specimens. Raqqa (79%) and Rural Damascus (72%) are missing the target for stool adequacy.



mOPV2 arriving in Raqqa in good condition.
Photo: WHO Syria



Vaccines in Thawra being packed ahead of the round.
Photo: WHO Syria



Teams in Tell Abyad getting ready to move to the field. First day of round.
Photo: WHO Syria



A vaccinator setting out to the field.
Photo: WHO Syria



Female vaccination team administering vaccine to children in Ein Esa camp.
Photo: WHO Syria



Young boy shows his 'pinky' finger, which has been marked after vaccination. Photo: WHO Syria

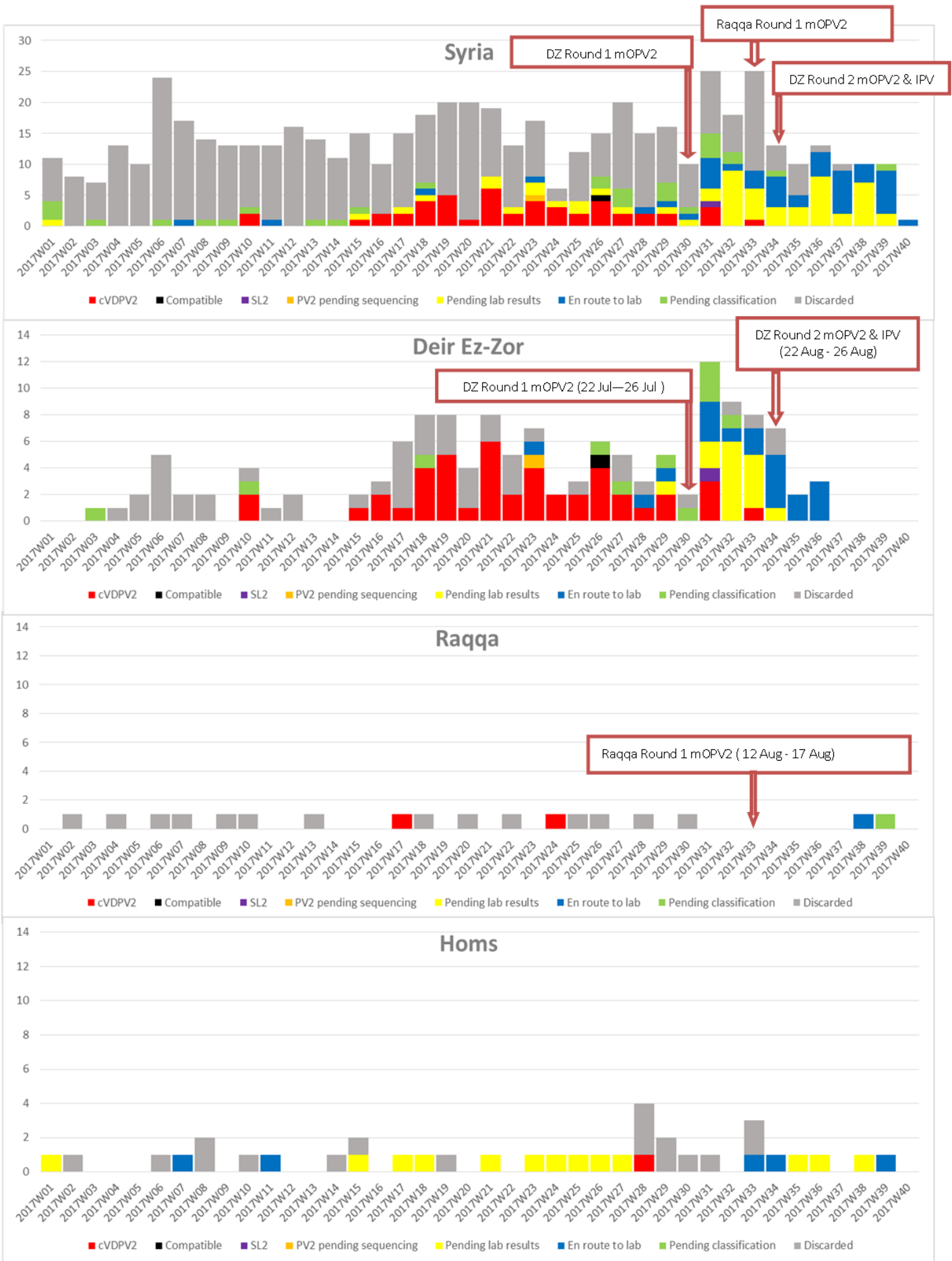


mOPV2 vaccination, Raqqa. Photo: UNICEF



A child is vaccinated with IPV, Raqqa.
Photo: UNICEF

EPI Curve of AFP cases by classification, 2017 (up to 9 October 2017)



Vaccination status (OPV) NPAFP cases aged 6-59 months (up to 9 October 2017)



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:

WHO

Thomas Moran — Syria Polio Outbreak Response
 World Health Organization
 E: morant@who.int | T: +962 7 9088 1568

UNICEF

Dr Fazal Ather—Regional Polio Coordinator
 UNICEF MENA
 E: father@unicef.org | T: +962 7 9810 0579

Joseph Swan—Communications Officer, Polio
 World Health Organization, EMRO
 E: swanj@who.int | T: +962 7 9048 4637