



IRAQ: Early Warning and Disease Surveillance Bulletin

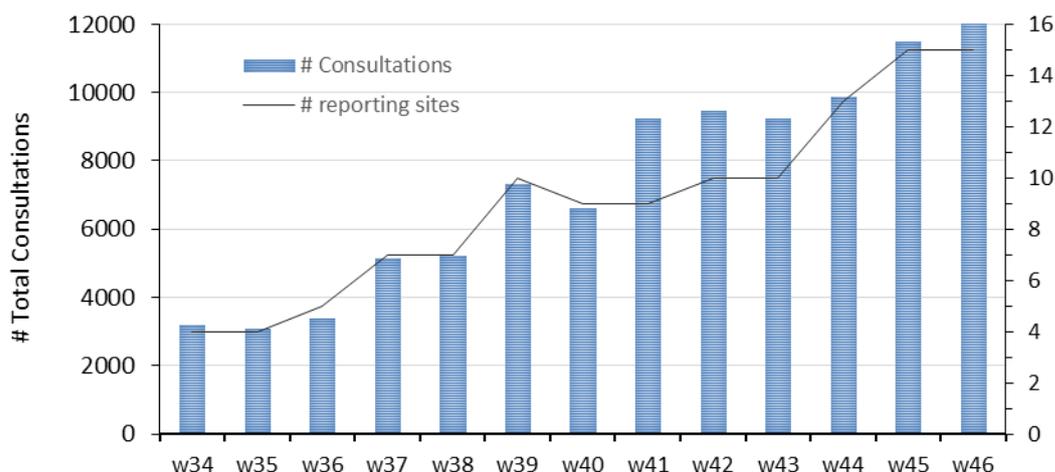
Epidemiological Week 46.

Reporting Period: 10 – 16 November 2014

Overview

- All health facilities from the 15 camps (7 Refugee camps and 8 IDP camps) submitted their weekly reports on time in week 46.
- The number of consultations increased by 16.2% compared with Week 45 and went from 11,470 to 13,472.
- Two new health facilities from two camps were added to the EWARN system since week 45.
- The EWARN system is still in the piloting phase, and more reporting sites will be included shortly.

Fig 1. Total consultations and proportion of reporting health facilities since week 1



Morbidity patterns

- Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) and Acute Diarrhea (AD) remained the leading causes of morbidity in week 46, with 2,186 and 780 cases respectively with 7.84% decrease of reported (ARI) cases compared to week 45 - (Fig 2)
- There was a significant escalation in trends from week 39; this is due to the increase in reporting sites (camps) included in EWARN. The trend stabilized between week 41 and 43, then there was a sharp decrease in the cases of ARI and AD in week 44 which is due to the late reporting from some major camps in the Duhok governorates. (The decrease was not compensated despite the recruitment of 2 news sites in week 44).
- Sixteen percent increase in the numbers of AD reported during week 46 compared to previous week.
- Bajet Kandala IDP camp accounts for the highest reported diarrhoea cases; during week 46 the camp reported 470 acute diarrhoea cases (60%). It also reported about 49% of the ARI cases during the current reporting week.
- Ten sporadic bloody diarrhoea cases were reported; 7 cases from four different refugee camps and 3 cases from different IDP camps.

Fig 2. Trend of leading communicable diseases

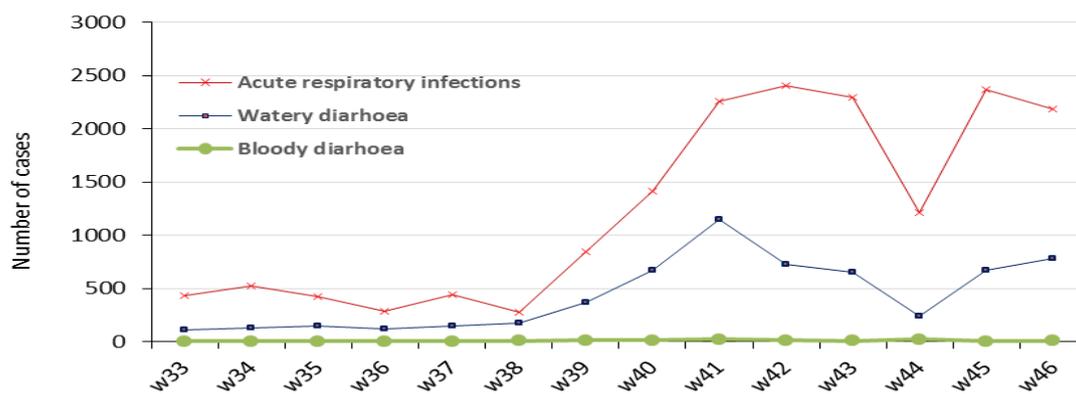
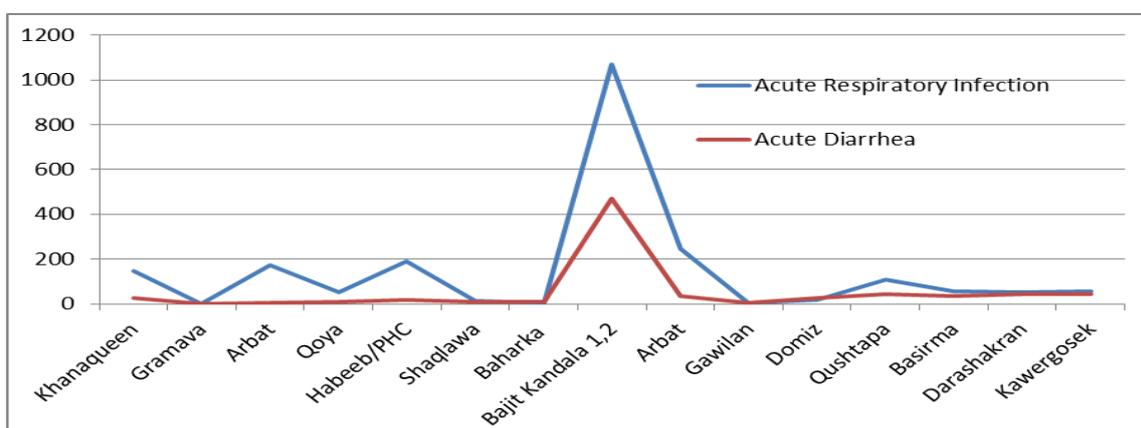


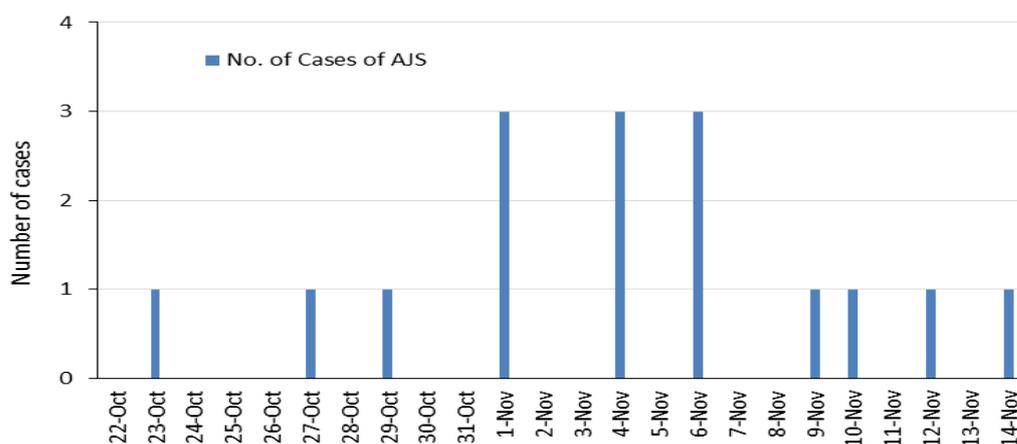
Fig 3. Trends of leading communicable diseases from major reporting sites



Alerts and outbreaks

- The outbreak of Acute Jaundice Syndrome (AJS) reported from Baharka IDPs camp on 23/10/2014 was confirmed as a viral hepatitis A (HAV) with three more cases reported in week 46 (Fig 4); one case was in the under 5 years age category and 2 cases were older than 5 years. More three cases of AJS were reported from Bajet Kandala 1&2 IDPs camp during week 46 among the age category of more than 5 years.
- Three cases of AJS were reported also during week 46 among Syrian refugee camps; 1 case under five years category and 2 cases more than five years reported from Darashakran and Domiz camps respectively.

Fig 4. Trend of acute jaundice syndrome cases in Baharka camp



- Routine screening was performed on 45 stool samples at the Erbil Public Health Laboratory and all tested negative for vibrio cholera.
- No cases of measles or acute flaccid paralysis were reported this week.

Comments

- Apart from the Hepatitis A outbreak in Baharka camp, other alerts received from the reporting sites are under investigation.
- WHO continues its coordinating efforts with the Federal Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Health in Kurdistan Regional Government to expand the EWARN system which is currently at the piloting phase.
- In areas with limited accessibility, WHO is relying on a network of focal points who are able to notify any changes in the health status of the populations in their areas of operations. The network did not notify on epidemic-prone diseases in week 46.

NB: Any suspected disease outbreak, or any **suspected case of measles, AFP, meningitis, suspected cholera, or unusual cluster of health events** should be immediately notified to relevant health authorities in your district or to the contacts provided below in order to facilitate further investigation.

For comments or questions, please contact

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