



World Health Organization

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

Situation report
JULY 2019
ISSUE NO.7
Yemen conflict



To avoid possible closure of dialysis centers, and to save the lives of 5,200 renal failure patients who suffer in silence, WHO distributed 118 dialysis machines to 12 centers across the country. C: Omar Nasr, WHO



24.1 MILLION*
IN NEED



14.3 MILLION**
IN ACUTE NEED



552,366 * CHOLERA**
SUSPECTED CASES



19.7 M ****
IN NEED FOR HEALTH CARE

WHO

HIGHLIGHTS



WHO supported Al Jumhori hospital in Hajja by the provision of a lifesaving Oxygen station that covers 8 hospitals and it produces 40 oxygen cylinders a day- saving the lives of people in Yemen. c: WHO team

NUMBER OF WHO STAFF & OTHER CONTRACTS MODALITY IN COUNTRY: 230

HEALTH SECTOR

71	HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS
15.8 M	TARGETED POPULATION –YHRP 2019
MEDICINES DELIVERED TO HEALTH FACILITIES/PARTNERS JULY	
8,548	CHILDREN WERE SCREENED AT NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE SENTINEL SITES
50,000	CONSUMABLE DIALYSIS SESSIONS
149,209	MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS

- Cholera remains a serious threat, cases spiked again in 2019 reaching more than 500,000 cases by the end of July.
- Measles infections soared in 2017 and 2018 reaching more than 29,000 by end of 2018 and continued through 2019.
- Dengue fever also spiked in June this year, with incidence of more than 13,000 suspected cases and 70 associated deaths by the end of July 2019.
- Diphtheria has re-emerged for the first time in Yemen since 1982, with around 4,000 suspected cases since August 2017 till end of July 2019 and nearly 218 associated deaths.
- The out-reach diphtheria vaccination campaign was launched on 28th of July in 6 governorates (Amanat Al Asimah, Sana'a, Amran, Hajja, Al Mahweet and Raymah) targeting children below 15 years for 6 weeks and will continue throughout the month of August.
- In July 2019, WHO officially announced elimination of lymphatic filariasis in Yemen with thanks to Global Programme to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis, and local health authorities.
- Mobile primary health care, surgical and emergency medical teams supported by the WHO conducted a total of 149,209 consultations in July.

* Yemen HNO 2019
** Yemen HNO 2019
*** Cholera bulletin as of 31 July 2019
**** Yemen- HRP 2019

Situation update

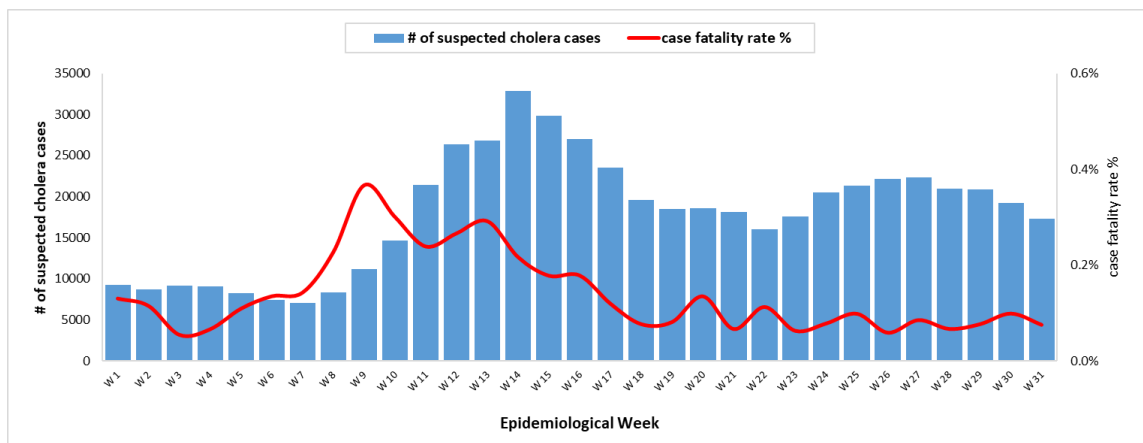
- **Conflict update:** Since June, 120,000 more people have fled their homes due to the ongoing conflict, bringing total displacement this year to more than 300,000 people. The conflict in Al Hudaydah governorate has been renewed despite a ceasefire agreed upon in Stockholm. Conflict reports continue to be received in the governorates of Al Bayda, Al Dhale'e and Taizz.
- **Impact of shortfall in funding:** according to a recent UN briefing in July, humanitarian partners suspended some of the regular vaccination programs targeting 13 million people. Activities in 30 new feeding centers in areas suffering from the most deteriorated conditions has also been halted. Up to 60 existing centers are on the verge of shutting down in the upcoming weeks, putting at least 7,000 malnourished children at immediate risk of death. For instance, in Sana'a, a UN-supported treatment plant that purifies water for agriculture is on the verge of shutting down which means that up to 4 million people could soon be eating vegetables irrigated with dirty water, making them more likely to contract cholera. WHO in particular has had to suspend incentive payments for health workers, as well as procurement of medicine and other supplies. Vaccination programmes will also be impacted, directly affecting targeted beneficiaries across the country.
- **Diseases update:** Cholera remains a serious threat, cases spiked again in 2019 reaching more than 500,000 cases by the end of July. Measles infections soared in 2017 and 2018 reaching more than 29,000 by end of 2018 and continued through 2019. Dengue fever also spiked in June this year, with incidence of more than 13,000 suspected cases and 70 associated deaths by the end of July 2019. Diphtheria has re-emerged for the first time in Yemen since 1982, with around 4,000 suspected cases since August 2017 till end of July 2019 and nearly 218 associated deaths.

Cholera

Epidemiological Update and Surveillance

- **From 1 January to 31 July 2019:** A total of 552,366 suspected cases of cholera including 789 associated deaths (CFR 0.14%) have been reported. Children under the age of five continue to represent 24% of the total number of suspected cases.

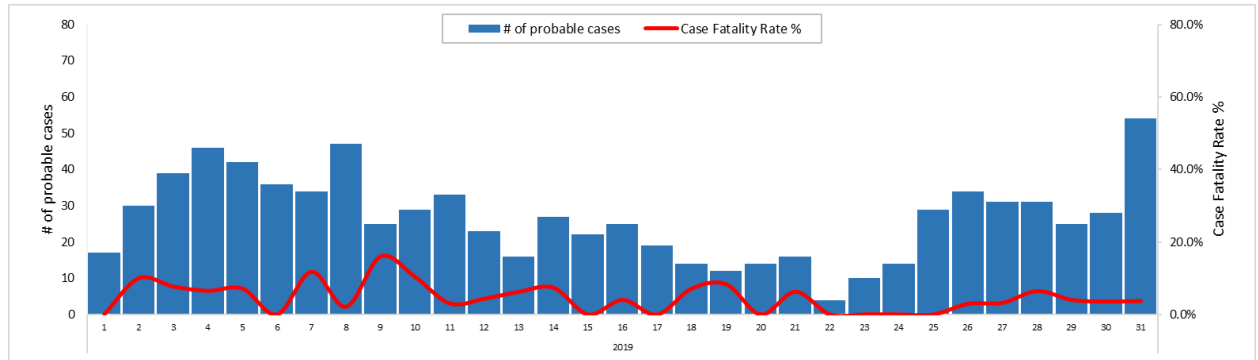
The trend in suspected cases between epidemiological weeks 1 -31



Diphtheria

- **From 1 January to 31 July 2019:** a total of 784 probable cases and 40 associated deaths have been reported. 143 districts have reported suspected diphtheria cases, of which 67% reported from four governorates: Al Hodeida 20%, Hajjah 20%, Amanat Al Asimah 15% and Sana'a 12%.

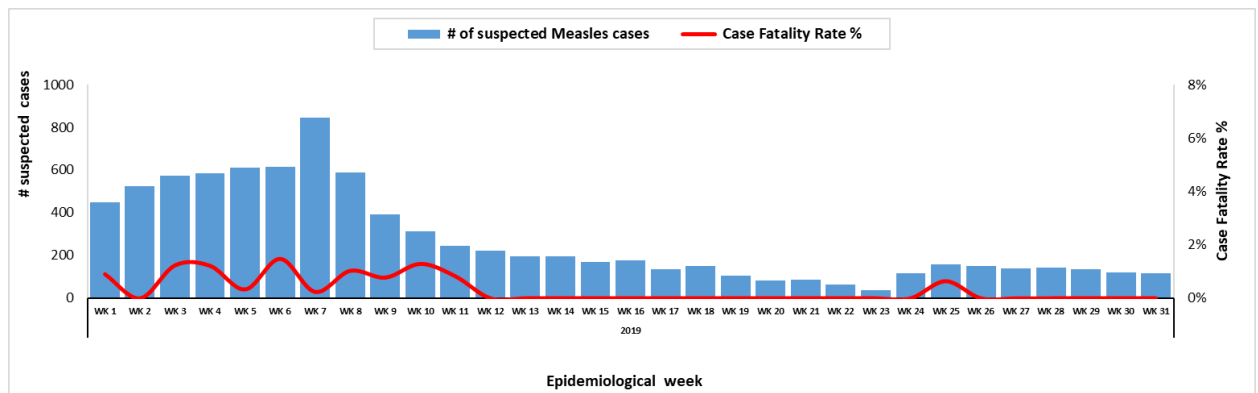
The trend in probable cases between epidemiological weeks 1 -31



Measles

- **From the 1 January to 31 July 2019:** a total of 8,425 suspected cases of measles have been reported, including 47 associated deaths (CFR 0.6%). Within the last 4 epidemiological weeks, a 52% of suspected cases were reported from 5 governorates: Sa'ada, Aden, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran and Ibb. Children under the age of five currently represent 68% of the total suspected caseload.

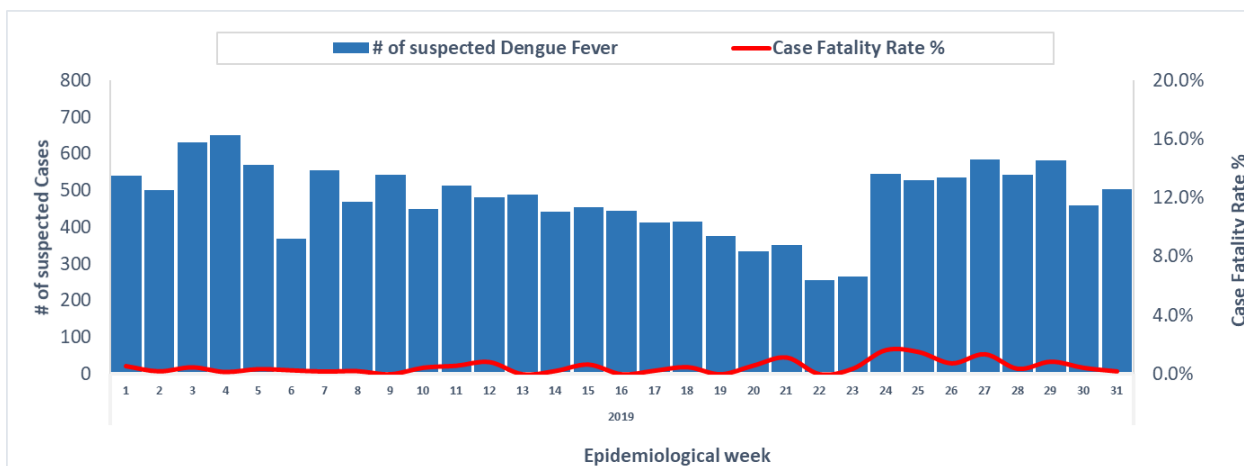
The trend in suspected cases between epidemiological weeks 1 -31



Dengue Fever

- **From 1 January to 31 July 2019:** there have been a total of 14,786 suspected cases reported including 40 associated deaths (CFR 0.3%). Within the last four weeks, 91 districts have reported suspected cases, with 77% of these being reported from four governorates: Abyan (23%), Aden (21%), Lahj (19)%, and Taizz (14%). The highest proportion of cases are being reported from districts where access is challenging due to insecurity.

The trend in suspected cases between epidemiological weeks 1 -31



Cholera

- OCV campaign-2nd round in the north and south:** Doses for the 2nd round of OCV have arrived to the country in July. The MOPHP in the Southern and Northern governorates agreed to conduct the second round of the vaccination campaign beginning 3rd August and 24th August, respectively.
- Case Management:** First round of training was completed in all 147 priority districts, in addition to all districts of the southern governorates. Also, training materials are being updated regarding the management of acute watery diarrhea with severe acute malnutrition. Preparation for the next round of training in non-priority districts is ongoing. MOPHP cholera guideline is being revised according to GTFCC/WHO guideline (focusing on antibiotic recommendations and management of acute watery diarrhea with severe acute malnutrition). In addition, 150 DTC health workers are being trained on infection, prevention and control. The training has so far been conducted in the southern governorates and will soon be started in the northern governorates. Integrated training on five infectious diseases (cholera, diphtheria, measles, rubella and influenza) to support health workers in health facilities, other than DTCs & DIUs, was implemented in Amran and Sana'a governorates, and will continue in the other governorates immediately after the occasion of Eid.
- WASH:** WHO supported the provision of WASH supplies to DTCs. In addition, training on disinfection/IPC in DTCs is ongoing with two sessions conducted in Aden. Regular monitoring of emergency health services in health facilities will start next week using the emergency health services assessment matrix, digitization the tool in progress to get real time information on water quality and environmental health services. Also, central public health laboratories assessment for water quality testing and water quality surveillance-procurement is in progress. Water Quality Technical working Group has been activated under WASH Cluster-Chaired by WHO in agreement with National Water Rural Authority (NWRA). Moreover, infection control and healthcare waste management trainings are ongoing with provision of supplies/equipment.

Diphtheria

- **Vaccination:** the out-reach diphtheria vaccination campaign was launched on 28th of July in 6 governorates (Amanat Al Asimah, Sana'a, Amran, Hajja, Al Mahweet and Raymah) targeting children below 15 years for 6 weeks and will continue throughout the month of August
- **Medication and Equipment:** a distribution plan for a batch of diphtheria medication is approved by MoPHP and the dispatching process has started. Which covers more than 3,900 probable diphtheria patients and more than 27,000 contacts.



Dengue Fever

- **Case management:** Dengue fever case management training was conducted in Aden, Al Dhale, Lahj governorates for 60 medical doctors from public and private facilities.
- **Health awareness:** The public health awareness campaigns are ongoing. With support of UNICEF, posters were fixed on health facilities and other public places. The campaign was conducted by 80 community/health volunteers in Aden. Similar campaigns were conducted in Lahj and Al-Dala'a with participation of 60 community health volunteers. A total of 30,000 posters and 100,000 leaflets were printed in March 2019 in Aden, handled to the national malaria control program and the ministry of public health and population and distributed during the first round campaign on March 2019.
- **Laboratory:** Five Dengue IgM and five Dengue IgG ELISA kits have been provided to CPHL Aden surveillance laboratory. These kits can be used for testing 500 serum samples. In addition, 166,000 cassettes for dengue RDTs in Djibouti are still awaiting shipping. Standard operating procedures for ELISA test have been developed and is now in use in the laboratory. Also, other consumables such as personal protective equipment (e.g., gloves), biohazard bags, paper towels, and pipette tips have also been provided to the laboratory. Diagnostic tests options in the laboratory tests and their utility in different settings have been included in Dengue case management training. Twenty clinicians have so far been trained.
- **Surveillance:** entomological surveillance activity was conducted in 4 districts (Al-Madhafar, Al Qaharah, Jabal Habashi, and Salh) in Taizz governorate at the period 10-13 July 2019.
- **Fogging Space campaign:** In July, a space fogging campaign was conducted in Al-Madhadfar, Al Qaharah , Jabal Habashi, and Salh districts in Taizz governorate.

Medical and Trauma Care

- **Incentives Payments to keep the health system functioning:** A total of 49 surgical teams were supported with incentives/per diem in 18 governorates and 33 health facility (HF) based primary health care (PHC) teams were supported in 12 governorates.
- **Medical consultations:** Mobile primary health care, surgical and emergency medical teams conducted a total of 149,209 consultations in July. Primary health care teams performed 138,318 consultations, while surgical and emergency medical teams performed 10,891 and 1,921 consultations respectively.
- **Material support to health facilities:** WHO continued its support to targeted hospitals to ensure functionality and continuous provision of health services. Support included that of medical and surgical teams, fuel and equipment and medical supplies provision. Fuel was provided to a total of 69 health facilities in 10 southern governorates, fuel provision in the northern governorates is pending due to logistic challenges. Additionally, one emergency mobile medical team (EMMT) was supported in 1 governorate.

WASH in Health Facilities

- **Coordination:** WHO environmental health (EH) team is working in close collaboration with WASH Cluster, Health Cluster partners, and National Authorities highlighting the health risk associated with contaminated water, poor sanitation and hygiene issues and providing guidance on mitigation measures. WHO under the Health Cluster has activated the technical working group on WASH in healthcare facilities to assess gaps and provide technical guidance to partners to fill those gaps. Also, coordination meetings have been conducted with NWRA (National Water Resource Authority) to activate the technical working group on water quality and discussed the capacity building plan.
- **EH/WASH Activities and Response:**
 - Two training sessions for 46 DTC staff on infection prevention and control, and disinfection procedures have been conducted in Aden from July 17 to July 20, with the aim to improve the IPC measures in DTCs. WHO provided necessary support for providing human resources with cleaning tools, equipment and disinfection chemicals needed for infection control to maintain proper hospital hygiene in these facilities.
 - Regular monitoring of environmental health services in health facilities (HFs) has been conducted by WHO WASH supervisors in 12 governorates. Free residual chlorine (FRC) in HFs has been monitored in water supplied by WHO to health facilities. 70% of the samples tested have shown positive results for FRC, results of samples having zero FRC were communicated to the administration of health facilities to take remedial actions.
 - Reconstruction and rehabilitation including the enhancement of WASH services in 35 healthcare facilities is in progress.
 - 35 healthcare workers have been trained on healthcare waste management with provision of supplies/equipment for segregation, collection, transportation and safe disposal of healthcare waste generated in healthcare facilities. On the job training has been provided on disinfection procedures.

Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)

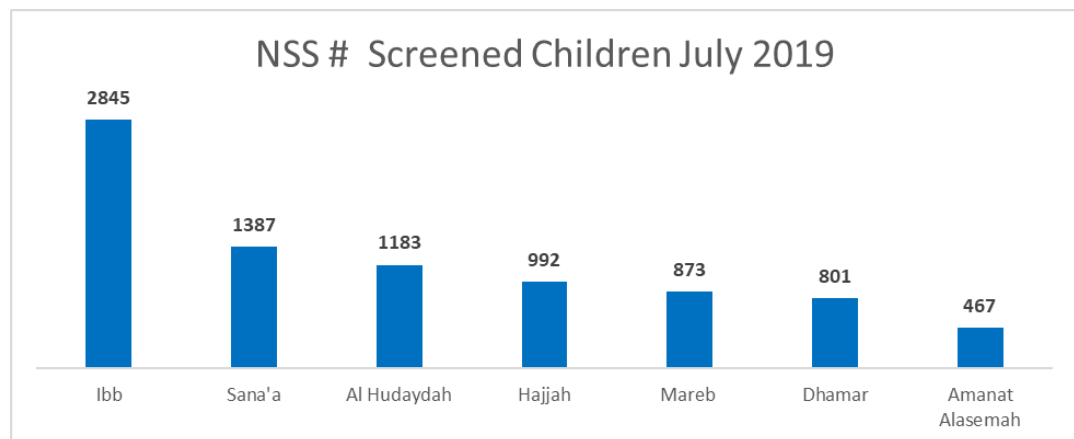
- WHO supported the provision of 50,000 consumable dialysis sessions distributed to 6 dialysis centers in the governorates of Sana'a, Dhamar, Ibb, Al Baydha, and Al Hudaydah.
- These sessions delivered will meet the needs of 1,200 dialysis patients over a period of more than five months.

Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)

- Lymphatic Filariasis was a public health problem in Yemen in 2000 and threatened almost 120K people since then. In July 2019, WHO officially announced elimination of lymphatic filariasis in Yemen with thanks to global programme to eliminate lymphatic filariasis, and local health authorities.

Nutrition

- **Child admissions:** In July, a total of 1,430 children were admitted to WHO supported Stabilization Centers (SCs) for the treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) with medical complications compared to a total of 849 children admitted in June 2019. The cure rate was reported at 92.6% with a case fatality rate (CFR) 1.3%.
- **Nutrition Surveillance :** A total of **8,548** children were screened at nutrition surveillance sentinel sites this month compared to **6,753** children in June. The proportion of children referred for treatment for acute malnutrition was 20.9 % and 8.1 % for those with severe acute malnutrition (SAM).
- **Field missions and Training :** In order to asset the functionality in new WHO supported Stabilization Centers (SCs), field missions were conducted to 5 SCs in Dhamar, 4 SCs in Ibb, and 3 SCs in Taizz governorates. Also, in coordination with the health authorities, a three-day sensitization training for 160 trainees was conducted in the governorates of Al Jawaf, Dhamar, Ibb, Sana'a, and Taizz. Also, to strengthen preparedness & response measures, Ministry of Health and WHO conducted training of trainers on cholera & severe acute malnutrition case management in 11 governorates, targeting 41 health workers who will be training another 420HCWs in 60 diarrhea treatment centres & hospitals.



Resource Mobilization

- As part of the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP) for 2019, WHO is appealing for US\$ 307.1 million, of which US\$ 50,280,767 million has been received, leaving an 84% funding gap.
- The HRP still remains heavily under-funded, impacting the continuity of life-saving programs. Programmes will be stopped if funding does not come in soon, and some of these activities have already been or will be halted.



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