

Ministry of Health- KRG Iraq and the WHO Representative's Office Iraq
Sitrep No.5 Cholera outbreak in Kurdistan
16th Oct. 2012

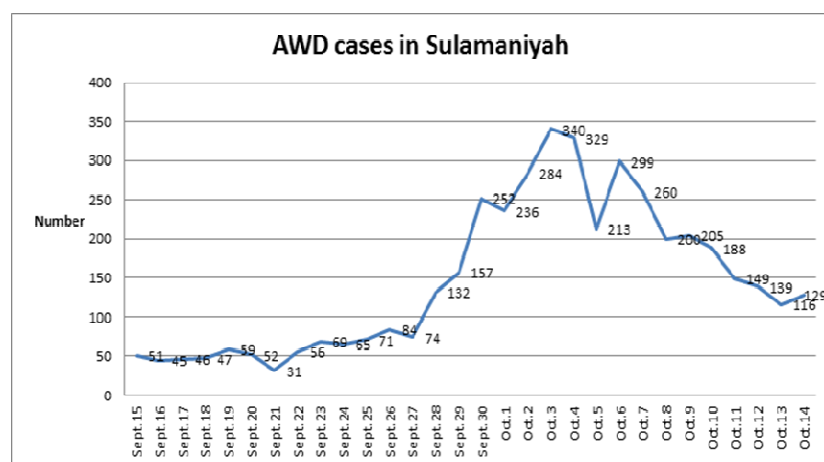
The Cholera outbreak which was reported in Sulaimaniyah is showing signs of control measures working effectively.

Health Impact:-

A total of **4, 527** cases have been reported since the onset of the outbreak till 14 October with **19** new confirmed cases of cholera after 4 October. The incidence is showing a decreasing trend as the cases peaked at one point (340 cases on 4 Oct) which has been reduced to 129 cases on 14 October. The severity of the cases has also shown drastic change in its form as most of the cases reported to the clinics and hospitals are presented with mild to moderate dehydration, revealing that the preventive and curative steps taken by the MOH Kurdistan and WHO are

effectively addressing the issue.

WHO is not recommending any travel ban to and from the affected governorate nor any restrictions on movement of edible items (fruits and vegetables). The preventive measures taken by DOH Sulaimaniyah and WHO/UNICEF has been effective in detoxifying the water sources as well as creating awareness among the



Source: DOH Sulaimaniyah

personal hygiene are proving to combat the cholera outbreak

local population about taking preventive measure towards

Health Response:-

- On 15th October a water engineer from WHO Regional Office together with epidemiologist from WHO country office visited Sulaimaniyah. WASH expert from UNICEF also joined. The team visited the Dokan water source on 16 Oct and is currently

in intense negotiation with the government to address on long term basis the issue of water contamination from this source.

- The level of medicine stocks in Sulaimaniyah main hospital and clinics is kept at sufficient level by the DOH Sulaimaniyah and no shortage has been reported from any of these places. WHO has stockpiled lifesaving medicines and supplies, in order to respond immediately to any shortage should it arrive
- Water chlorination levels are raised at all sources with strict monitoring at the source distribution and household level.
- The community awareness campaign is judiciously ongoing and supported by WHO/UNICEF.
- The disease surveillance system for communicable diseases has further been strengthened in the adjoining governorates especially in Dohuk to capture any undue rise of acute watery diarrhoea cases in these governorates
- NO DEATH has been reported since 4 October

Situation in Erbil

No undue rise in diarrhoea cases has been noticed in Erbil and the government and WHO/UNICEF is vigilant in detecting any cases of AWD.

Situation in Dahouk

The DOH Dohuk and camp management of Domiz camp is meticulously putting preventive and diagnostic measures to prevent any outbreak of AWD in Dohuk. Especially, with the refugees situation in Dohuk, risk of any undue rise of AWD in Domiz camp is maximized

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