



Somalia Emergency Health Update

HIGHLIGHTS

Reporting 13 May-2 June 2013 - Epidemiological weeks 20 to 22

POLIO

FOUR CASES CONFIRMED IN SOMALIA (AS OF 30 MAY 2013)

EMERGENCY RESPONSE VACCINATION CAMPAIGN REACHES MILLIONS OF CHILDREN

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MILLIONS OF CHILDREN PROTECTED FROM POLIO OUTBREAK



A child receives polio vaccine in Mogadishu, Banadir region

Outbreak response vaccination campaigns started on 14 May 2013, within four days after the first case of polio was confirmed on 9 May in Mogadishu. As of 30 May 2013 four cases have been confirmed (three from Banadir and one from Bay region).

In the month of May, two outbreak response campaigns were conducted. More than 400,000 children were vaccinated in the 16 districts of Banadir region and the neighbouring district of Afgooye during the first round between 14 and 18 May. A second round of mass vaccinations took place between 26 May and 2 June, targeting

1.6 million children in southern and central Somalia and Puntland. The response took place smoothly with encouraging local leadership from authorities in all areas, high-quality coverage and strong community participation.

A third round will target 3.9 million people countrywide starting from 12 June. As adults are also deemed to be at risk of the current outbreak, in Banadir all age groups will be targeted for polio vaccination, while children under the age of 10 will be targeted in the remaining regions of South Central Zone, and children under the age of five in Somaliland and Puntland.

DISEASE ALERTS

During the reporting period, a total of 85 disease alerts, were reported through MAYgh the surveillance network. Central Somalia and Somaliland accounted for 30 alerts respectively, accounting for 71% of all reported alerts. Suspected measles cases accounted for 74% of the alerts, with Acute Flaccid Paralysis accounting for 10 alerts; Central zone reported eight alerts while Somaliland reported two alerts. There were three alerts for suspected cholera, all reported from Central Somalia. Monitoring of alerts through the weekly database and reporting of outbreak rumors outside the sentinel surveillance network continues to be undertaken.

Alerts detected through the weekly database - by zone

Week	Central	South	Puntland	Somaliland	Total
20	7	9	2	8	26
21	11	8	3	11	33
22	12	1	2	11	26

Figure 1 – Disease alerts

Zone/ Region/ District	Date of notification	Suspected disease	Date of onset	Date of rumor verification /investigation	Date of response	Actions taken
Central/Banadir/ Rajo IDP camp	9-May	Suspected cholera	?	12-May	Ongoing by partner agencies on ground	A total of 74 cases, including 91% children under the age of five, were reported between 9 and 12 May. Five deaths were also reported, including three young children. Four stool samples were collected from the cases, and they all tested negative for any infection. The situation is stable, but the risk of cholera remains high, due to limited sanitation facilities.
Southern/Bay/ Burhakaba/Bula Nasib	24-May	Suspected measles	20-May	25-May	Hard to access area, for vaccination	Between 20 and 30 May, six cases of suspected measles were reported from Bula Nasib. Half of the cases were children below the age of five. There are plans to vaccinate, despite security and access challenges.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE

(EPI weeks 20 to 22, 13 May – 2 June 2013)

Between weeks 20 and 22, almost 113 0000 health facility visits were reported by sentinel sites from the four zones; 43.8% (49 373) were children under the age of five. Central Somalia accounted for 46.2% of the reported visits, Puntland 19.6%, Southern Somalia 20.5% and Somaliland 13.7%.

Sentinel sites in Somalia

ZONE	N.	% Reporting timely
Puntland	45	100%
Somaliland	54	100%
Central	60	98%
Southern	36	89%
TOTAL	195	97%

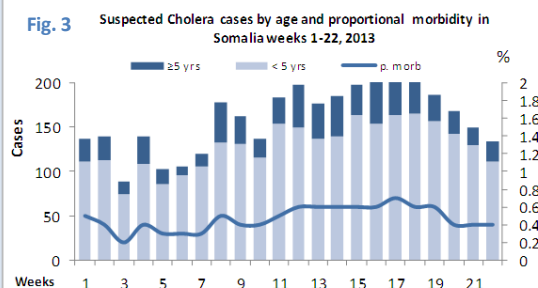
Figure 2- Weekly aggregated data from sentinel sites in 4 zones of Somalia

	Week 19 7 – 12 May 2013		Week 20 13 – 19 May 2013		Week 21 20 – 26 May 2013		Week 22 27 May – 2 June	
Health event	Total cases	*Proportional morbidity	Total cases	*Proportional morbidity	Total cases	*Proportional morbidity	Total cases	*Proportional morbidity
Susp. Cholera	186	0.5	168	0.4	149	0.4	134	0.4
Susp. Shigellosis	8	0.02	2	0.01	7	0.02	3	0.01
Susp. Measles	64	0.2	73	0.2	68	0.2	58	0.2
Acute Flaccid Paralysis	1	0.003	4	0.01	7	0.02	9	0.02
Susp. Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	1	0.003	0	0
Susp. Whooping Cough	20	0.1	16	0.04	9	0.02	16	0.04
Confirmed Malaria	677	1.8	862	2.3	891	2.3	647	1.8
Susp. Neonatal Tetanus	2	0.01	1	0.002	4	0.01	4	0.01
All other consultations	37197	97.5	36561	97.0	37027	97.0	35971	97.6
Total consultations	38155		37687		38163		36842	

*Proportional Morbidity is the number of cases for individual health event as a proportion of all consultations for the reporting week

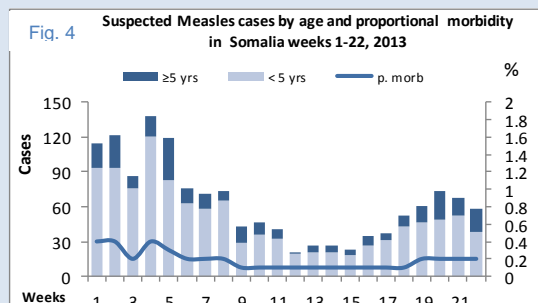
SUSPECTED CHOLERA

During the reporting period, 451 suspected cholera cases were reported from Banadir Hospital in Banadir region of Central Somalia. Adherence to the recommended case definition for suspected cholera remains a challenge. However, the current trend shows a steady reduction in the number of reported cases due to seasonal change, as observed in previous years at the end of the rainy season.



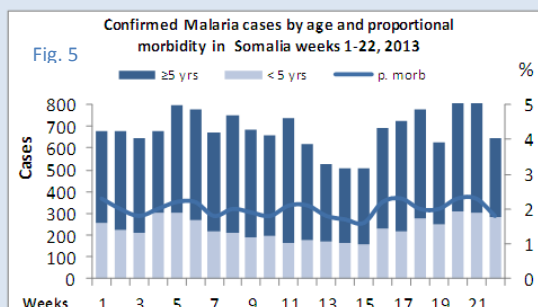
SUSPECTED MEASLES

A total of 199 suspected measles cases were reported in the four zones. Central Somalia accounted for 38% (76) of the cases, Somaliland for 27% (54), Southern zone for 11% (21) and Puntland for 24% (48) of the cases. Immunization activities are ongoing in accessible areas, to increase vaccination coverage.



CONFIRMED MALARIA

Confirmed malaria remained the leading cause of morbidity during this reporting period. A total of 2400 cases were reported from the four zones. 37% (889) of the reported cases were children under the age of five. Central zone accounted for 52% (1252) cases, Southern 42% (1018), Somaliland 0.6% (16) and Puntland 5% (114).



OTHER HEALTH EVENTS

Cases of **suspected shigellosis** are still being reported in some areas. Although tracing patients remains a challenge, all the cases that were found did not show signs or symptoms that conform to the recommended case definitions. Training and monitoring of health workers and has shown improvement of the adherence to case definition.

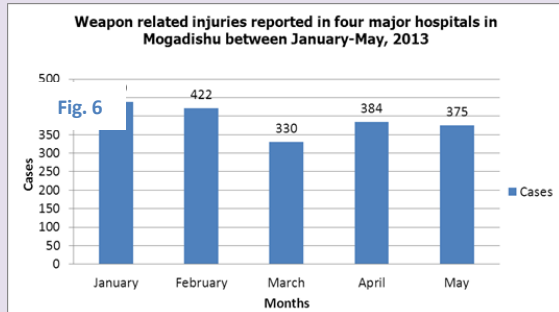
16 cases **suspected whooping cough** were reported. Similarly, a case of **suspected diphtheria** was reported. Low vaccination coverage, and a large number of unvaccinated children, due to lack of access to large geographical areas in southern and central zones, will continue to pose a challenge in the event of an outbreak. Vaccination activities are ongoing and routine immunization programmes have been re-initiated in accessible locations.

CONFLICT-RELATED INJURIES

MOGADISHU

Between weeks 20 and 22, reported weapon-related injuries in Mogadishu remained stable, with no major increase seen. A total of 232 cases were reported in four major hospitals, with 3 cases under the age of five.

There was a 2% reduction in the number of casualties recorded in the month of May 2013, as compared to the month of April 2013 (see monthly graph).



KISMAYO

In the reporting period, 68 cases of weapon related injuries were reported at the Kismayo General hospital. In the month of May 2013, the number of casualties decreased by 12.4% as compared to the month of April (from 97 cases to 85 cases). 23 cases of children under the age of five have been reported since January 2 013.



Patients get treated from various injuries at the Kismayo General Hospital

MUDUG

From 13 May to 2 June 2013, a total of 12 cases were reported at the Mudug regional hospital.

BAIDOA

At the Baidoa Regional hospital, 19 weapon injuries were reported during this period.

DOBLEY

At the Doble field hospital, 10 weapon related injuries have been reported during week 20 to 22.

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Previous issues can be found on the following link:
<http://www.emro.who.int/som/somalia-infocus/somalia-health-update.html>

Health partners' activity data can be found on the Health Cluster website on:
<http://healthsomalia.org/documents.php>