

KEY UPDATES:

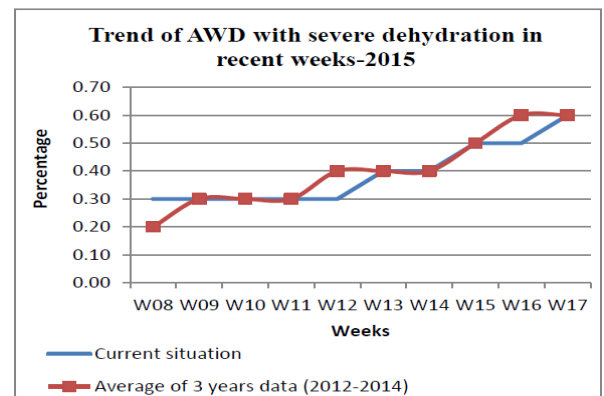
- ◆ 29 measles outbreaks, two pertussis and one food poisoning outbreak were reported by DEWS in April 2015
- ◆ The movement of refugees from Pakistan's North Waziristan Agency (NWA) into Khost and Paktika provinces continued due to active military operations. Verified total refugees assessed include 35,252 families and 243,248 individuals of whom 175,929 are currently in Khost and 67,319 in Paktika
- ◆ Two mobile health teams in Khost province and one mobile and one static clinic in Paktika province are functional with the support of WHO. The teams provided emergency primary health care services for 5,172 refugees during April 2015
- ◆ WHO supported the Nangarhar regional hospital in Jalalabad in managing a mass casualty incident which resulted in 34 deaths and 105 injuries
- ◆ The first phase of the national measles vaccination campaign was conducted in the southern region at the end of April
- ◆ A landslide struck Jero Bala village in Badakhshan's Khwahan district on 29 April 2015 - 52 people died and 237 families were affected



Mass casualty management exercise in Wardak Provincial Hospital

PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

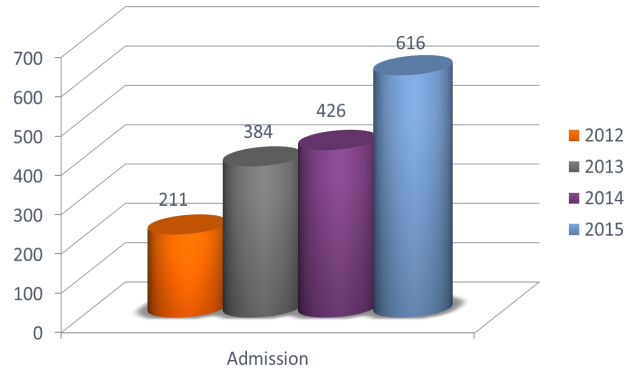
- ◆ Refresher training for 48 DEWS officers was conducted on prevention and control of diarrhoeal diseases and other waterborne diseases during flood and drought situations in Afghanistan
- ◆ WHO prepositioned two trauma kits which can cover 200 major surgeries to Nangarhar province. One trauma kit was prepositioned in the Nangarhar regional hospital and one kit has been prepositioned in a WHO warehouse in the eastern region
- ◆ WHO office in Nangarhar province donated one basic health kit to Afghan Volunteers Doctors' Association (AVDA) to cover the health needs of 1000 people in Jalalabad city
- ◆ WHO established one mobile health team in Kapisa province to provide access to basic health services to conflict-affected internally displaced people (IDPs) of Tagab and Alasaay districts of Kapisa Province
- ◆ To treat people affected by the landslide in Badakhshan, WHO provided essential emergency medical supplies, including one interagency emergency health kit (IEHK) with medicines and medical supplies, together with one pneumonia kit to Wakan district hospital of Badakhshan province
- ◆ WHO provided financial and technical support for the first phase of the measles vaccination campaign in the southern region



WHO Jalalabad office supplied Trauma Kits A+B to the Nangarhar Regional Hospital

MAJOR PUBLIC HEALTH RISKS:

- ◆ The increase in the number of trauma cases due to conflict in the first quarter of 2015 compared to the same period in the last three years continues to be a major health concern in Afghanistan
- ◆ Measles outbreaks continued in April 2015 with 29 outbreaks confirmed in different provinces
- ◆ Healthcare needs of 866,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) and 243,248 refugees continue to burden health facilities in high-risk provinces that are already resource-constrained
- ◆ Violence against health staff and facilities continues to be a public health risk in Afghanistan—in Kandahar province a health worker was shot and sustained serious injuries in April
- ◆ The increase in proportionate morbidity rate of diarrheal diseases from 6.8% in March to 9.7% in April 2015 indicates the need for further preparedness and strengthened response capacity



Conflict-induced injuries admission to Lashkargah Hospital in Helmand province in January–March over four years

Increasing conflict in Afghanistan necessitates the health facilities in high-risk provinces to be well prepared for mass casualty management

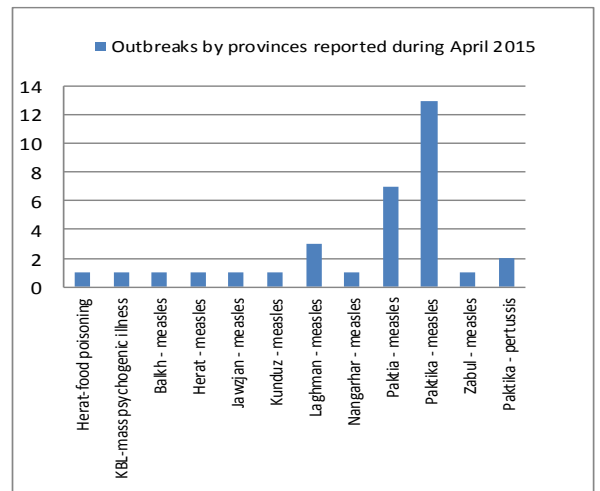


WHO supported a training on diarrhoeal diseases for DEWS officers at the Ministry of Public Health

KEY MESSAGES:

- ◆ Controlling measles outbreaks through special vaccination campaigns and strengthening routine immunization is a top priority for Afghanistan in the coming months
- ◆ Prevention and control of diarrhoeal diseases through awareness campaigns and integrated water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities is another priority in 2015
- ◆ Mass casualty management planning and preparations through capacity building in terms of human resources, supplies and infrastructure development must be scaled up in high-risk provinces

A nationwide measles immunization campaign in Afghanistan began in April and will continue until the end of May 2015



Programme Update
Emergency Humanitarian Action WHO Afghanistan

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