

Table 1 Programmes supported (in full or in part) by United States Naval Medical Research Unit No. 3 for surveillance of common infectious disease syndromes in Afghanistan

Programme title	Objectives
Spectrum of disease survey and enhanced surveillance for acute febrile illness (AFI) and acute diarrhoeal infections (ADI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish capacity for infectious disease surveillance in selected hospitals • Determine etiologies of pathogens causing AFI and/or ADI • Describe epidemiological characteristics and associated risk factors
Regional influenza and influenza-like illness surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support regional information system network in Middle East • Capacity building (training, equipment, supplies)
Seroprevalence and risk factors for Crimean–Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF) in rural districts of Herat province	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimate seroprevalence of CCHF in humans and livestock • Identify risk factors for historical zoonotic infections • Identify potential primary CCHF vector in Afghanistan
Prevalence and etiological agents of visceral leishmaniasis (VL) in Baghlan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimate seroprevalence of VL and identify possible risk factors • Identify infectious agent of VL in northern Afghanistan
Outbreak investigation of hepatitis B virus (HBV) in Laghman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and control sources of HBV infection through a case–control study
Assessment of putative risk factors and behaviours for hepatic venoocclusive disease outbreak, Gulran District, Herat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify factors associated with hepatic venoocclusive disease
Community-based cross-sectional study of prevalence of helminthic infection, anaemia and malnutrition in children ages 6 months through 12 years in Afghanistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine prevalence of helminthic infection from a cross-sectional study • Estimate proportions having helminthic disease-associated anaemia • Determine nutritional Z-scores of pre-school age children with helminthic versus non-helminthic infections
Temporospatial distribution of spectrum of AFI and diarrhoea in infants age 0–2 years in Kabul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance diagnostic facilities at Maiwand Hospital • Use the enhanced capability to investigate the spectrum of diseases • Establish a sustainable surveillance system for AFI and ADI
Suspected anthrax outbreak investigation in Nimroz Province	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify causative agent and putative risk factors for outbreak in Nimroz Province (later confirmed as plague)
Antimalarial drug sensitivity surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimate baseline frequency of mutations associated with antifolate resistance and detect differences in mutation frequency of <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i>