

IRAQ: Early Warning and Disease Surveillance Bulletin

Epidemiological Week 18:

Reporting Period: 27 April – 3 May; 2015

Overview

- During week 18, Thirty eight reporting sites including six Refugee and twenty four Internally Displaced People's (IDP) camps, and eight mobile clinics submitted their weekly reports timely and completely.
- The total number of consultations reported during this week was 20173 (male=9466 and female=10706) compared to 15923 (male=7056 and female=8867) consultations from the previous reporting week 17.
- During week 18, Acute respiratory tract infections (ARI) (n=6864), Acute Diarrhea (n=924) and skin diseases (n=1170) were the leading cause of morbidity.
- A total of twelve alerts were generated by EWARN in week 18; all of these were verified as true for further investigation and appropriate response by Erbil DoH/WHO, (more details is in Alert/outbreak section)
 - Two alerts for severe Acute Diarrhea cases were reported from Qaladiza and Al-Nkhhb IDP camps run by mobile clinic of World Vision and UMIS respectively.
 - Two alerts for suspected Leshmaniasis were reported from Arbat and Segea IDP camps run by Emergency and mobile clinic of IMC respectively.
 - A suspected meningitis case was reported from Kowergowsk Refugee camp run by IMC.
 - Two alerts for suspected measles were reported from Ameriyat Al-Fallujah and Arbat IDP camps run by UMIS and Emergency respectively.
 - An alert for unexplained fever reported from Raniya IDP camp run by world vision.
 - An animal bite case was reported by Seetak IDP camp run by World Vision
 - Two alerts for suspected bloody Diarrhea were reported from Dawodia and Sahariya IDP camps run by mobile clinic of MDM and Medair respectively
 - An alert for suspected pertussis was reported from Ameriyat Al- Fallujah run by UMIS
- After successful refresher trainings on EWARN in KRG and addition of new reporting sites, flow of real time data has started from the site to the EWARN center in coordination with MoH. The EWARN will be monitoring all the camps catering IDPs and Refugees in Iraq while the host community will be covered by the national surveillance program.

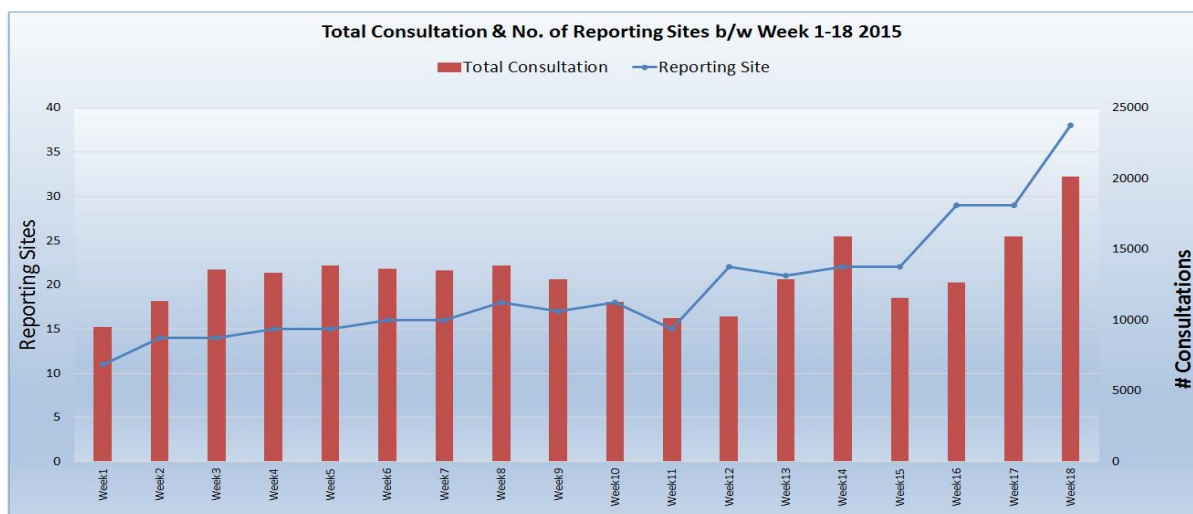
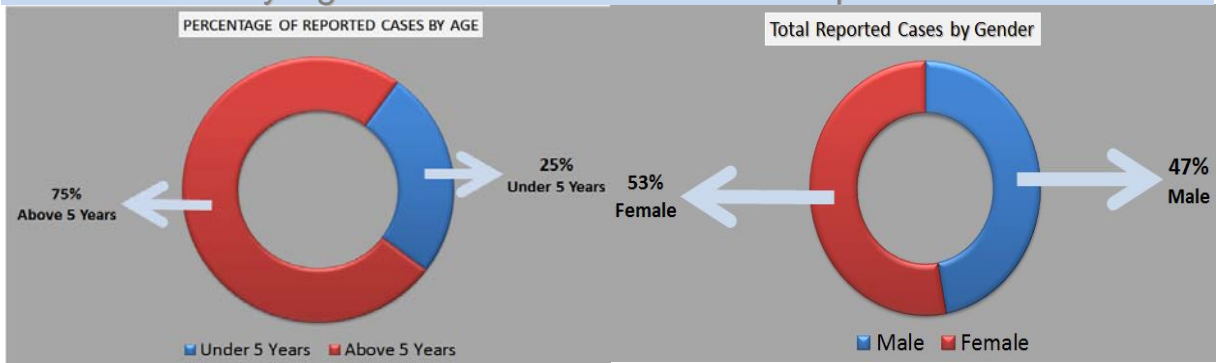


Figure 1: Total consultations and proportion of reporting health facilities b/w week 1-17

Consultations by Age and Gender week 18 in camps:



During week 18, 75% of the consultations were above 5 years while 25% were under 5 years, out of which 53% were females and 47% males.

Morbidity patterns

- During week 18, Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI), scabies (SCB) and Acute Diarrhea (AD) remain the leading causes of morbidity with Acute respiratory tract infections (ARI) (n=6864), Acute Diarrhoea (n=924) and skin diseases (n=1170) cases reported from all camps reporting to EWARN.
- **Overview for IDP camps:** During week 18, the number of consultations of Acute Diarrhea (AD) in IDP camps has almost doubled since last week 17 (week 17=330 and week 18=791) due to the increase in the reporting sites from 29 to 38 sites. Skin infestations have slightly decreased from 835 cases in week 17 to 749 in week 18 while Acute Respiratory Infections consultations have gradually increased from 4161 cases in week 17 to 4698 cases in week 18. (See below graph)

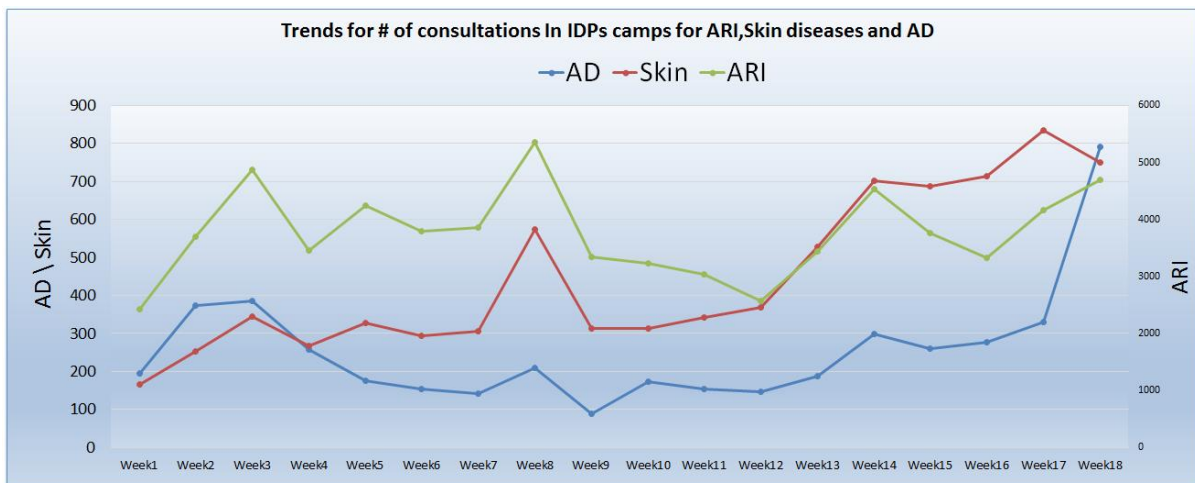


Figure II: Trend of # of cases of ARI, Scabies and AD from week 1 – 18 in IDP Camps

- **Overview for Refugee camps:** During week 18, the number of consultations of Acute Diarrhea (AD) in IDP camps has almost remained steady since last week 17 (week 17=110 and week 18=133). Skin infestations have slightly increased from 320 cases in week 16 to 421 in week 18 while Acute Respiratory Infections consultations have gradually increased from 1863 cases in week 17 to 2166 cases in week 18. (See below graph)

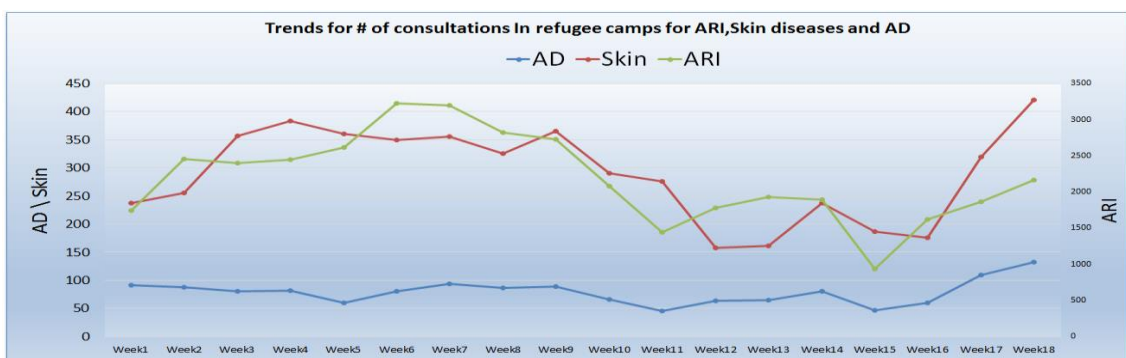


Figure III: Trend of # of cases of ARI, Scabies and AD from week 1 – 17 in Refugee camps

- Overview for IDP CAMPS by proportions:** During week 18, proportions of Acute Diarrhea in IDP camps have increased from 3% to 5% since last week indicating a steady increase in trend with the approach of summer months. Skin infestations including scabies have shown a drop down from 7% to 5% since last week. ARI proposition has decreased from 37% in week 17 to 32% in week 18. (see below graph)

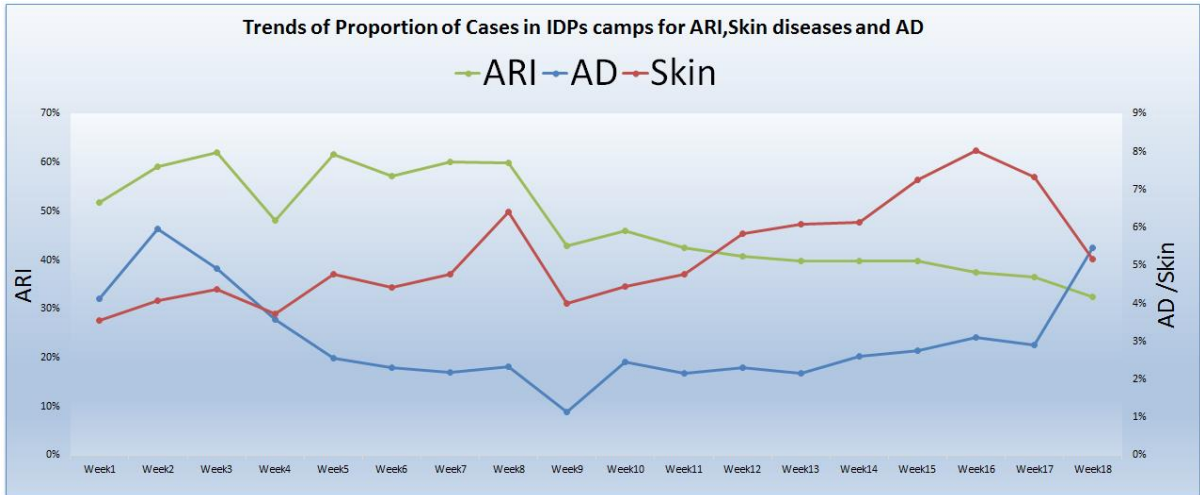


Figure IV: Trend of proportion of cases of ARI, Scabies and AD in IDP camps

- Overview for Refugee CAMPS by proportions:** During week 18, proportions of Acute Diarrhea in IDP camps have increased since last week (week 18=2%). ARI proposition has decreased from 41% in week 17 to 38% in week 18. Skin infestations including scabies proportion have also remained the same since last week (week18=7%). (see below graph)

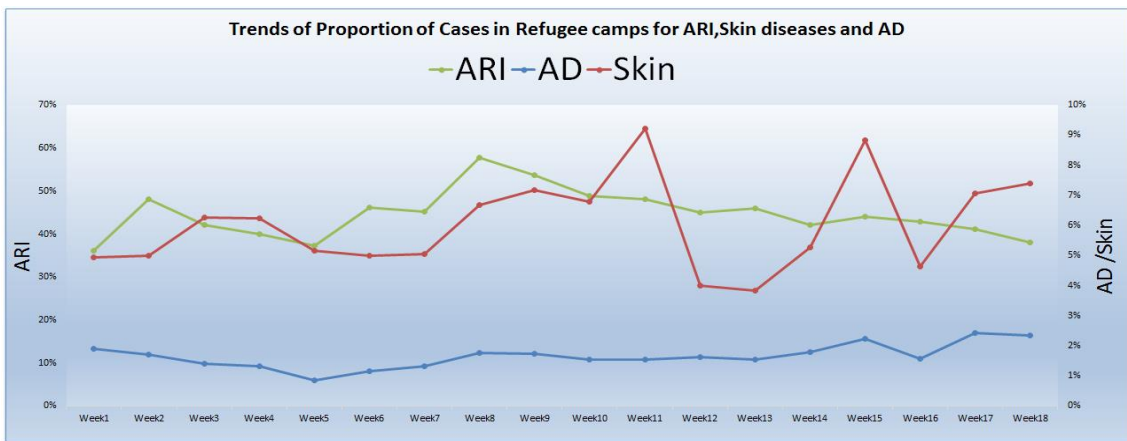


Figure V: Trend of proportion of cases of ARI, Scabies and AD in Refugee camps

The below graph indicates the proportion of cases of Acute Respiratory Tract Infections, Acute Diarrhea and Skin Infestations including scabies which are the highest leading cause of morbidity per IDP reporting sites for week 18, 2015. The camps indicating a high proportion of acute diarrheal cases are vigorously monitored and random stool samples for vibro cholera collected by Erbil DoH.

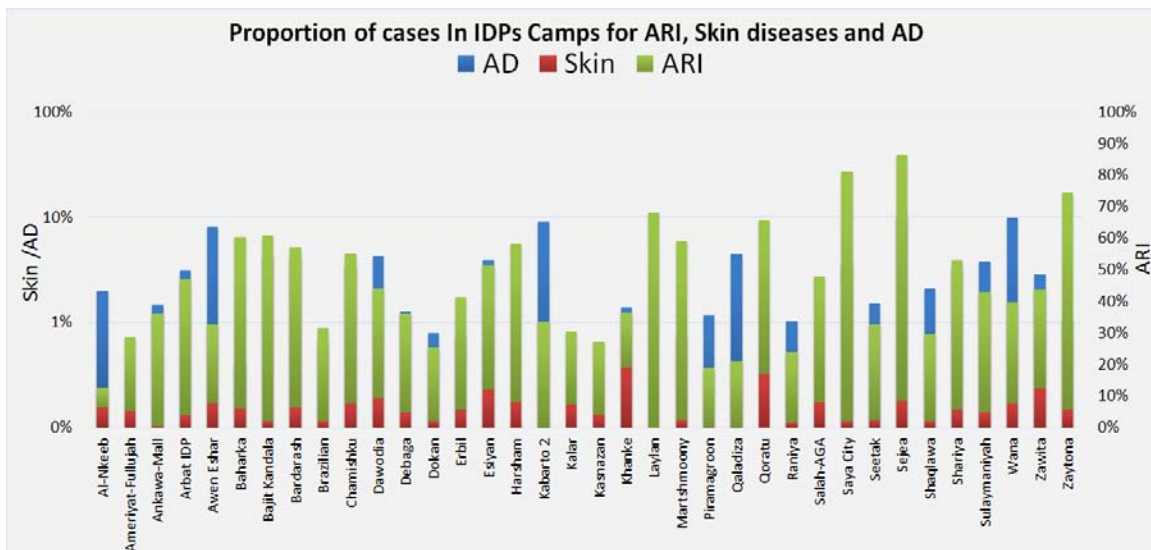


Figure VI: Proportion of cases of ARI, Scabies and AD in IDP camps (week 18)

The below graph indicates the proportion of ARI, Acute diarrhea and skin infestations cases including scabies in refugees camps for week 18, 2015. Domiz refugee camp run by MSF-France indicates a high proportion of acute diarrhea cases.

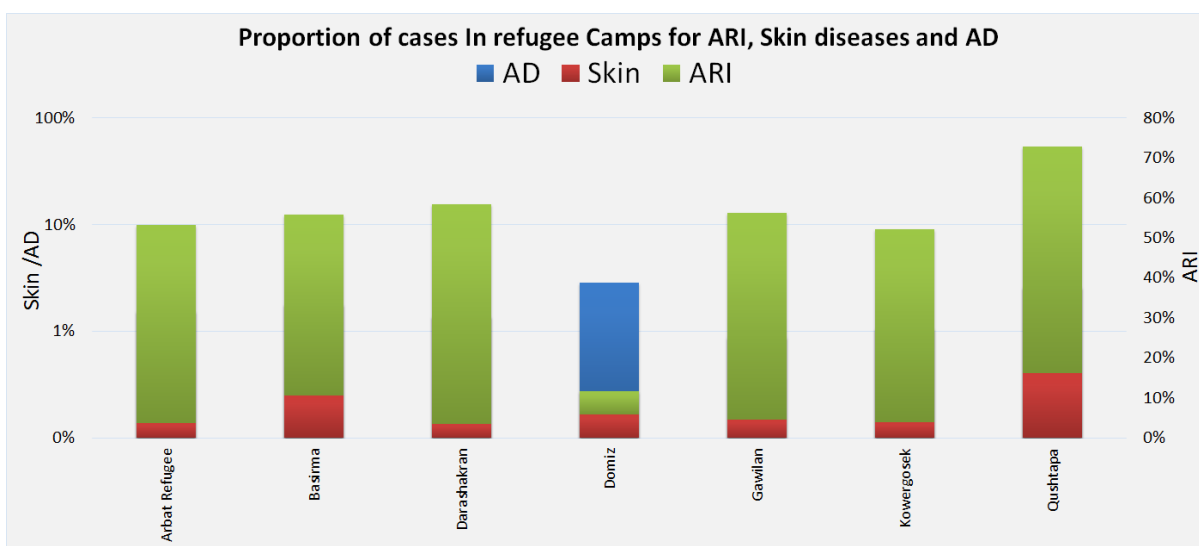
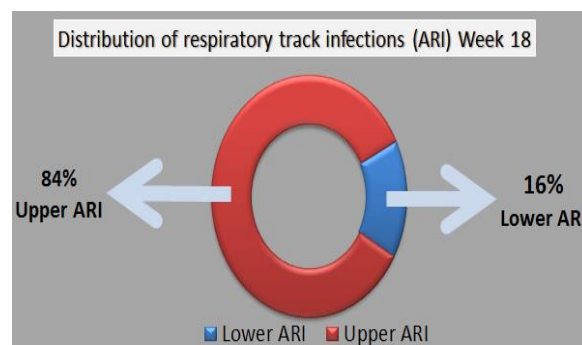
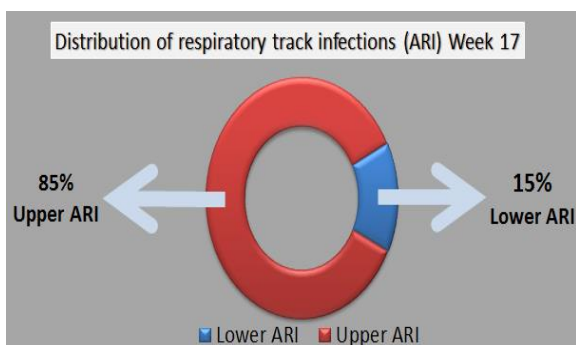


Figure VI: Trend of proportions of cases of ARI, Scabies and AD in Refugee camps from (week 18)

- Acute Respiratory Tract Infection (ARI) has been further divided into upper and lower respiratory tract infections since week 1, 2015.
 - According to EWARN data, the trends of upper and lower ARI remained approximately the same when compared with week 17.
 - The ARI trend is slowly decreasing as summer is approaching.



- Furthermore, the below graph indicates the proportion of Lower and upper ARI cases per each reporting camp for week 1 to 18.

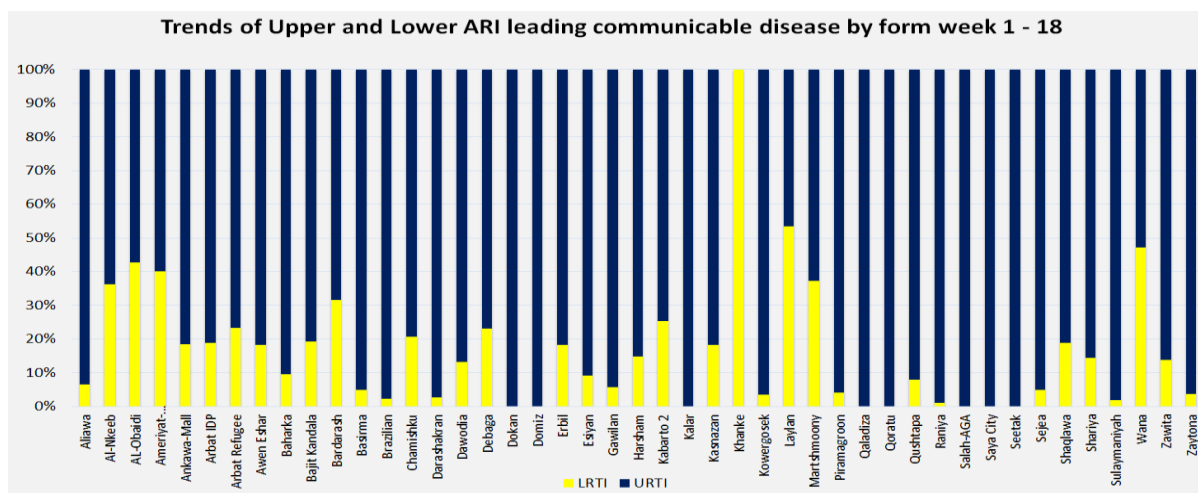


Figure VII: Trend of Upper and Lower ARI leading communicable disease, from week 1 to 18

Proportion of Waterborne Diseases in IDP Camps: The below graph shows the trends of waterborne diseases (Acute Diarrhea, Bloody Diarrhea and Acute Jaundice Syndrome) from IDP reporting camps, indicating a steady increase in waterborne diseases.

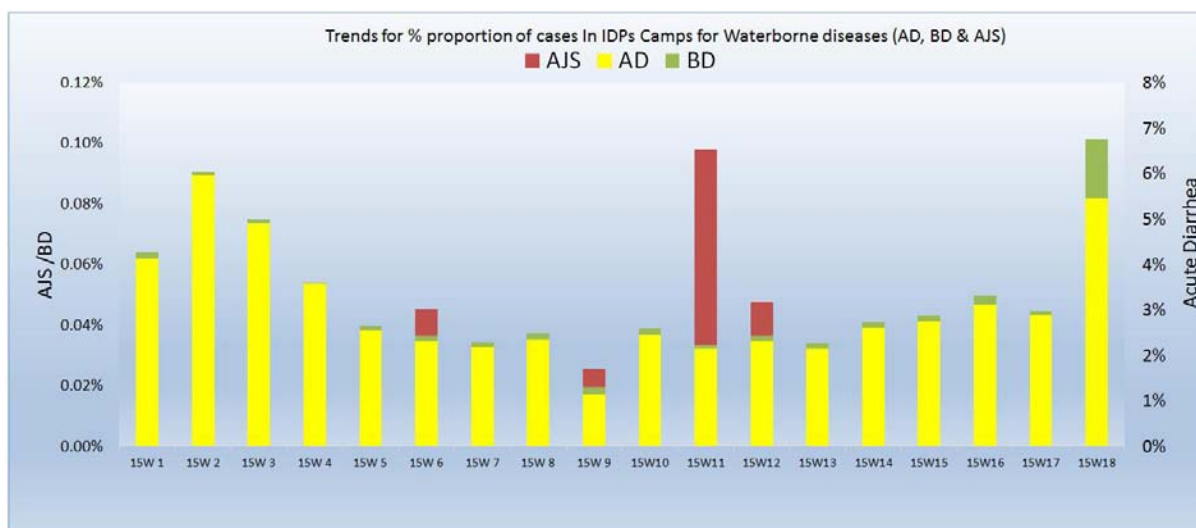


Figure VIII: Trend of Waterborne diseases from IDP camps, from week 1 to 18

Proportion of Waterborne Diseases in Refugee Camps: The below graph shows the trends of proportion of waterborne diseases (Acute Diarrhea, Bloody Diarrhea and Acute Jaundice Syndrome) from refugee camps, indicating a steady pattern ranging between 3% to 5%.

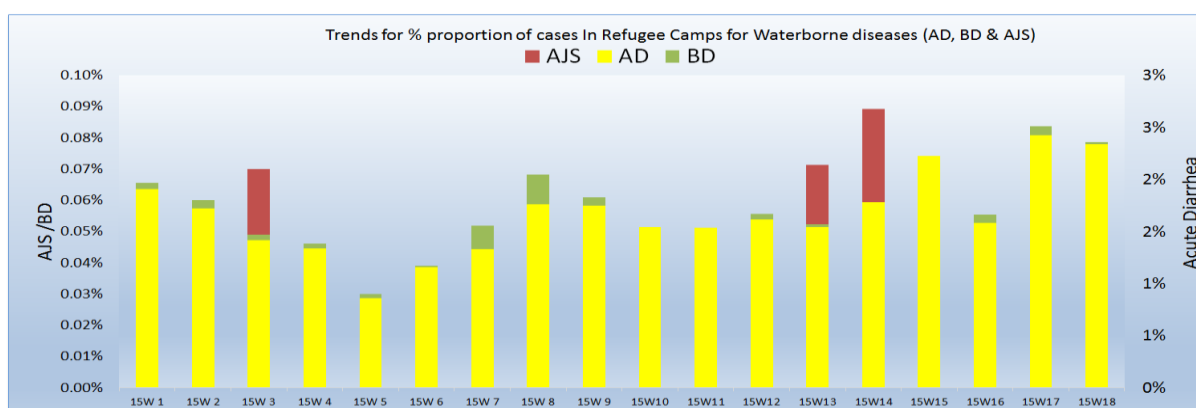


Figure IX: Trend of Waterborne Diseases (Acute Diarrhea, Bloody Diarrhea and Acute Jaundice Syndrome) as one of the leading communicable disease from Refugee camps, from week 1 to 18;

Alerts and Outbreaks

- No outbreak of any communicable diseases was detected through EWARN in week 18, 2015
- A total of twelve alerts were generated by EWARN in week 18; all of which were verified as true for further investigation and appropriate response by Erbil DoH/WHO,(more details are in Alert/outbreak section)
- Two alerts for severe Acute Diarrhea cases were reported from Qaladiza and Al-Nukhaibb IDP camps, run by mobile clinic of World Vision and UMIS respectively. Stool samples were collected and sent to central laboratory in Baghdad; result was found negative for Vibrio Cholera.
- Two alerts for suspected Leshmaniasis were reported from Arbat and Segea IDP camps run by Emergency and mobile clinic of IMC respectively; cases were identified and were given proper treatment. Vector control campaign is in process to control and limit the spread of sand fly.
- A suspected meningitis case was reported from Kowergowsk Refugee camp run by IMC and was responded to by the investigation team. CSF samples were collected and dispatched to the laboratory; result was found negative.
- Two alerts for suspected measles were reported from Ameriyat Al-Fallujah and Arbat IDP camps run by UMIS and Emergency respectively. Samples were collected and found positive. Erbil DoH is conducting mop-up campaigns in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF. The measles campaign has been completed and the outbreak in Arbat IDP camp in Sulamaniya is gradually decreasing with further reduction expected in the coming weeks.
- An alert for unexplained fever was reported from Raniya IDP camp run by world vision; eighteen cases of unexplained fever were reported for the last two weeks. The cases were investigated by Erbil DoH and WHO and referred to the tertiary hospital for further investigation. No unusual increase in number of cases was seen in the camp during the visit.
- An animal bite case was reported by Seetak IDP camp run by World Vision
- Two alerts for suspected bloody Diarrhea were reported from Dawodia and Sahariya IDP camps run by mobile clinic of MDM and Medair respectively
- An alert for suspected pertussis was reported from Ameriyat Al-Fallujah run by UMIS; the case has been clinically diagnosed as positive

Comments and recommendations

- There is a need to organize on-job refresher trainings on case definitions for the healthcare providers working in the camps to avoid false diagnosis of cases; therefore, a training session is planned for of the displaced in Governorates of KRG starting on the-4th of May, 2015..
- Electronic EWARN training is in progress in all the three governorates of KRG.

For comments or questions, please contact

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