

EWARN Report
Report on suspected cases of Cholera in South of Syria
4th June 2017
Turkey – Gaziantep

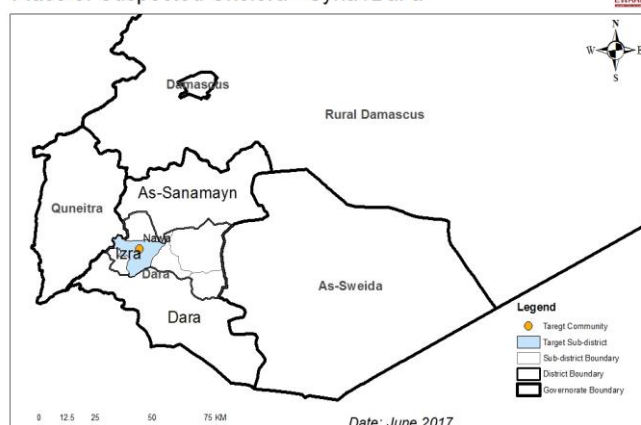
Geographical overview:

Location: on the western parts of Dar`a governorate- Izra` District- Nawa sub-district, Nawa town.

Population: estimated 110.000 inhabitants.

Public services: agriculture is the main work field, the water networks provides only 20% of the water in the area ; electricity is cut since 3 years ago.

Place of Suspected Cholera - Syria /Dar'a



Water sources and sanitation: drinking from tanks collected from many wells, the majority of those wells are chlorinated by NGOs and civil defense. Sanitation: sewer.

Health services: hospital Walid Khattab , and internal medicine clinic.

Description of the alert:

On 2nd of June 2017, 11:30 PM, EWARN central team was reported about AWD case (suspected cholera case) by DLO (district level officer) of Dar`a governorate, who received the alert as well from the FLO of Walid Khattab hospital in Nawa town.

On Friday 02.06.2017 02:00 PM, a case of 16 years old male, Mohammad Al Jahmani , from Nawa town , Nawa sub-district, Izra` District , Dar`a governorate, presented of acute vomiting ,fever and abdominal pain, then the patient suffered from a white watery diarrhea large volume and frequent turned into watery turbid quickly (Figure1) , within three hours the patient came to the clinic with shock, pale, cold extremities, and in very bad condition and immediately transferred to Walid Khattab hospital on 2nd June 05:30 PM ,he was given IV fluid .



Figure 1

According to the physician the condition improved after administrating IV fluids, and the patient discharged from the hospital at Saturday morning 03.06.2017.

Action:

1- Investigation and Sampling :

- **Index Case :** EWARN-DLO received an alert at 09:00 PM , when the FLO tested the stool sample as a suspected cholera case. RDT was positive (Figure 2).

The DLO went to the case in the hospital at the early morning 03.06.2017 to investigate and collect more samples , he repeated the RDT and was negative (Figure 3). The patient was in good condition with no dehydration as he received 8 liters of IV fluids within 12 hours with oral rehydration. No travel history for the case or the family .

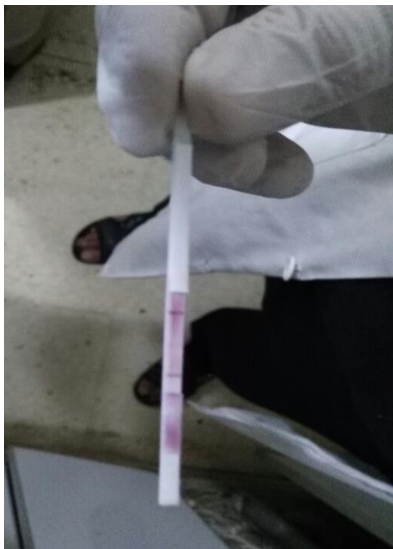


Figure 2



Figure 3

2 adequate stool samples were collected in carry Blair media (Figure 4) . The samples were reserved according to the conditional terms (Temperature 2-8 degrees). The 1st sample was sent to EWRAN lab in Kaheel town (about 50 km from the case location) and delivered at the lab on Sunday 2:30 PM 04.06.2017 , and the 2nd sample was stored to be sent to the Jordan health directorate lab.

On 03.06.2017, survey of contacts and neighboring inhabitants was done by the DLO in the town of the reported case , 2 contacts and another 11 persons were detected as they have similar symptoms. All the cases described below in line list Table 1.



Figure 4

- **Water source :**

The reported case family drink tanks water collected directly from Fayad well , upon investigation in the family house it was clear that the mother is aware about the disinfection procedure of the water by using aqua tabs for chlorination (Figure 5) , she was describing how she dilutes the tabs in the proper amount of the water before drinking and cooking . The aqua tabs disseminated for the people in Nawa town by NGO.



Figure 5

- **Contacts :**

2 cases within the contacts suffered from similar **slight** symptoms (vomiting – fever- loose stool – abdominal pain) on 02.06.2017 , the RDT and stool sampling were not available upon house visit as the contacts couldn't defecate.

2- Active search :

Through the quick inquiries done by our DLO with the physicians , health workers and sentinel sites in the Nawa, the primary findings:

- **Other suspected cases :**

The FLO reported the DLO about many cases in the westerns neighborhood of NAWA , they displaced since 3 months ago from Idwan village and live in the same building (including the FLO family).

Action :

Field visit was done by the DLO who discovered 11 cases suffered from vomiting, fever , abdominal pain and watery diarrhea and all of them are above 5 years . 4 of them are from one family and presented on Friday morning 02.06.2017 but only 2 had severe dehydration, it was thought that they have food poisoning, but the other 7 cases presented on the same day evening and next day with **slight** symptoms.

Both of the dehydrated cases received IV fluid at home (provided by a relative nurse) , and they improved . RDT was done for the both cases and was slight positive in 1st case (Figure

6) and negative in the 2nd case (Figure 7).

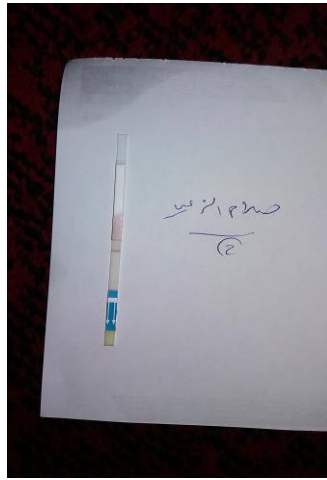


Figure 6

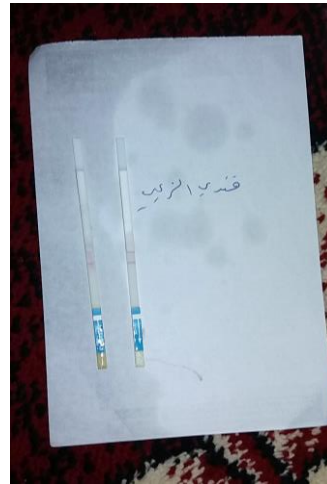


Figure 7

The DLO collected stool samples for the two mentioned cases.

The water source for those 11 cases is collected directly from Orphans (Aytam) well, it is worth to mention that the water source has recently changed (2 days before the onset day) , no water chlorination is done for those cases . The DLO provided aqua tabs for them with the suitable explanation.

Travel history: those families displaced since 3 months ago from Idwan village.

Cases #	Age by Year	Sex	Location	neighbourhood	Water source	Diarrhea	Vomiting	Fever	Abdominal pain	Dehydration	Date Of Onset	RDT Result	Stool culture	Result	ORS	IV Fluid	Case Fate
1	16	m	Dar`a _Nawa	Middle	Tank _Fayad well	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	6/2/2017	Positive	yes	pending	yes	yes	Cured
2	42	f	Dar`a _Nawa	Middle	Tank _Fayad well	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	6/2/2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes	no	Cured
3	24	f	Dar`a _Nawa	Middle	Tank _Fayad well	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	6/2/2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes	no	Cured
4	36	m	Dar`a _Nawa	Western	Orphans well	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	6/2/2017	Positive	yes	pending	yes	yes	Cured
5	16	m	Dar`a _Nawa	Western	Orphans well	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	6/2/2017	Negative	yes	pending	yes	yes	Cured
6	15	m	Dar`a _Nawa	Western	Orphans well	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	6/2/2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes	no	Cured
7	32	m	Dar`a _Nawa	Western	Orphans well	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	6/2/2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes	no	Cured
8	35	m	Dar`a _Nawa	Western	Orphans well	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	6/3/2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes	no	Cured
9	28	m	Dar`a _Nawa	Western	Orphans well	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	6/3/2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes	no	Cured
10	13	f	Dar`a _Nawa	Western	Orphans well	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	6/3/2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes	no	Cured
11	27	m	Dar`a _Nawa	Western	Orphans well	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	6/3/2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes	no	Cured
12	15	f	Dar`a _Nawa	Western	Orphans well	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	6/3/2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes	no	Cured
13	12	m	Dar`a _Nawa	Western	Orphans well	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	6/3/2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes	no	Cured
14	45	f	Dar`a _Nawa	Western	Orphans well	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	6/3/2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes	no	Cured

Table 1 : Cases simple line list

- **Hospital Register** : during the active search in the hospital register , there were 2 cases (23 and 30 years old) presented at Walid Khattab hospital on 30.05.2017 , they suffered from gastroenteritis and collapse(Figure 8) , the investigation was not available as the hospital received many trauma cases same time, the follow up will be done on the next day.
- **Pharmacies**: the DLO visited two pharmacies in the area , and asked the pharmacists if they heard about any suspected similar cases or if there is a recent increase in ORS use later on , both of them did not meet anything unusual or related to any diarrheal outbreak.

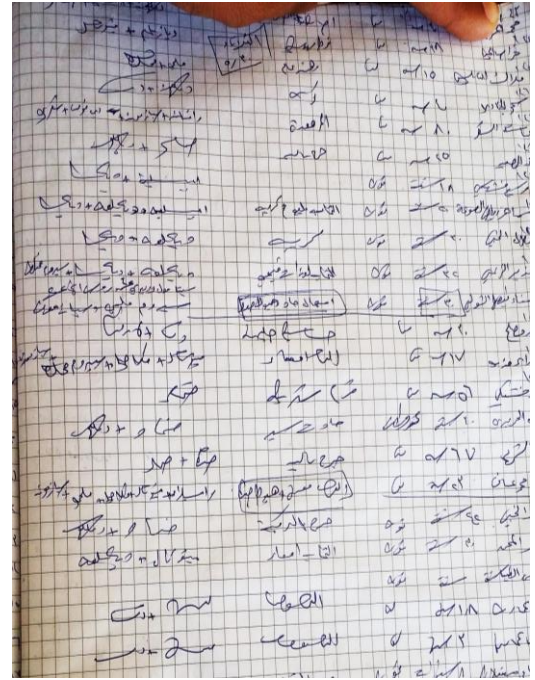


Figure 8

- 3- **IEC materials** : the DLO disseminated many fliers about cholera transmission and prevention in the hospital (Figure 9) , more fliers will be printed and disseminated later.
- 4- **Contacts and health workers education**: the DLO educated the health workers in the hospital about the correct case definition for suspected cholera , management and reporting mechanism . An awareness explanation done by the DLO as well for the contacts and the families about cholera transmission and best prevention methods.
- 5- **Waste management** : all the wastes resulted from sampling (tools and stool) were managed properly (burning).



Figure 9

Recommendation:

- Facilitating the stool samples shipment for the Jordan Lab.
- Encourage the actors in south to report about any similar cases.
- Emphasize the partners to apply and follow the safe treatment procedures for water sources.
- Mobilize the needed efforts to work on cholera preparedness plan in south, in parallel of the ongoing preparedness plan in north.