

Weekly Report  
Public Health and Nutrition Jordan  
Week 19 HIS  
Report Date May 17<sup>th</sup> 2013

## 1. Operational Highlights and Situation update

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- Assessment was conducted in Raba Sahan on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May by UNHCR Health staff and IOM in order plan new arrival vaccination and health screening services.
- MoH reports that in health centres and hospitals in and around Ramtha medication supplies that used to be enough for one month are now barely lasting for 8-10 days.
- Mortality rates in Za'atri stable; 18,725 consultations in Za'atri in week 19 with an average of 48 consultations per clinician per day; 4,167 consultations for chronic health conditions with 12% for diabetes and 15% for asthma.
- Meeting of WHO, CDC and UNICEF with Ministry of Health and National Immunization Technical Advisory Group on 15<sup>th</sup> of May to discuss the out-of-camp response to increasing measles cases. As it is considered not possible to organize a mass campaign in the North before Ramadan the option of accelerated vaccine activities in Syrians, Iraqis and high-risk Jordanians is being considered.
- MSF report that they have received approval from JFDA to use Plumpy Nut® in Za'atri camp for treatment of SAM. Formal registration of the product for use outside the camp is pending.

## 2. Population

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The refugee influx continues with 460,945 total persons of concern to UNHCR of whom 377,729 are registered. The total registered individuals from city of Dar'a are the highest percentage at 63.5% and 17.7% of total registered are in Irbid and 16.6% in Amman.

Total active Syrians registered with UNHCR in Jordan	377,729
Number of Syrians waiting to be registered with UNHCR	83,216
Number of persons collecting WFP ration in Zaatri*	116,429
Number registered in Emirati Jordanian Camp as of May 16 <sup>th</sup>	3,042
Number of new arrivals registered in Zaatri May 9 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup>	9,987

\* As of first distribution cycle in May

### 3. Coordination

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- Irbid Governorate Health Coordination meeting took place on 14th May at the Directorate of Health in Irbid. Key issues discussed: an official letter was sent from the Health Insurance Department in the MoH to all public health centers and hospitals requiring that Syrians show their valid UNHCR registration paper plus the government issued security card to be able to receive free healthcare. However, Syrians residing in King Abdullah Park and Cyber City (and who are eligible for free Ministry of Health Services) are not issued security cards and consequently are being denied free treatment when referred to PHCs and governmental hospitals. Irbid Health Director Dr. Ahmad Shagran is seeing solutions and clarification with Ministry of Health Amman.
- Nutrition Subworking group met on the 14th of May. Main outcomes: include only include pregnant and lactating women and children 6 months to five years in nutritional surveillance (MUAC); add cerebral palsy and other disabilities with swallowing or chewing difficulties as vulnerable group with special nutritional needs (special food products are being provided to this group until WFP vouchers are introduced); Nutrition Plan of Action is to be shared with Ministry of Health.
- Handicap International chaired the bi-monthly Task Force on Disability and Age on 8th of May in Za'atri. The aims of the Task Force were defined and are 1) strengthen identification of persons with specific needs including improvement of screening in the new arrival and registration area; 2) Set up an interagency referral pathway for those with specific needs relating to age and disability and 3) Improve accessibility of the camp with reference to SPHERE Handbook and other guidance.
- Health Coordination Meeting held in Zaatri 13<sup>th</sup> of May. MoH reported one family of eight persons in Za'atri affected by food poisoning after eating leftover dish cooked the day before. The family presented 2 hours after eating the meal with diarrhea and vomiting. All have recovered but this highlights the need for increased awareness on food safety. MoH has prepared 200 alkaline peptone media for cholera culture to be distributed to the health facilities.

### 4. New arrivals

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- From 8<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May IOM medical team vaccinated 1,768 new arrivals under five against polio; 5,531 new arrivals under 30 against measles and 1,615 new arrivals between 6 to 59 months were provided with Vitamin A supplements. The new arrival vaccination numbers since 16th April, are 7,511 refugees provided polio vaccine ;25,110 provided measles vaccine; and 7,034 were provided with Vitamin A supplement.
- From 8<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May IOM medical team with support of JHAS provided health checks for Syrian refugees upon arrival to Za'atri camp for 10,286

individuals; IOM provided 112 individuals with medical conditions requiring immediate referral or treatment at the camp's health clinics as part of the transportation assistance services.

## 5. Health services

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- UNHCR conducted visits to clinics in Irbid and Ramtha including, MDM clinic, Al Takaful clinic, JHAS clinics - Irbid, Ramtha, Cybercity and MoH clinic in King Abdullah Park. There is a need to raise awareness that free health services at Ministry of Health facilities are NOT provided to Syrians who have the UNHCR appointment card. They should be directed instead to JHAS and other NGO clinics.
- UNHCR met with the Ramtha Sub-Director of Health who highlighted the great burden currently seen in public health centers and Ramtha Hospital in regard to the number of patients seen, the number of inpatients, the amount of medication consumed as well as other medical services. This has created bed shortages for Jordanians seeking services and thus fueling resentment amongst the host population. The greatest needs are for more staff and more medication as the medication supplies that used to be enough for one month in Primary Health Centres and hospitals are now barely lasting for 8-10 days.

## 6. Communicable diseases and outbreak prone diseases

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- Increase in incidence of bloody diarrhea in all age groups in Zaatri and under fives with a doubling of the total number of cases from week 18 to week 19; Ministry of Health is investigating and taking stool specimens for culture.
- Measles cases increase with an additional five cases confirmed in week 20; total number of cases is 11. The five cases occurred in a family who refused vaccination during the recent campaign.
- Two new cases of leishmaniasis identified in Zaatri which brings total to 43 cases all of which are imported from Syria. Treatment is available at PAC.
- WASH and Health actors met in Zaatri to review diarrhoeal disease outbreak preparedness. Main gaps have been identified in lack of a diarrhoeal diseases/cholera treatment centre in event of an outbreak, not all health facilities have oral rehydration corners prevention in marketplaces and hygiene measures for street food handlers and stockpiles of ORS, ringer's lactate, chlorine and zinc need to be quantified.

## 7. Tuberculosis

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- From 8th to 14th May IOM medical team delivered TB awareness sessions for 739 refugees (52% males and 48% females).
- From 1<sup>st</sup> May 2013 until the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2013 IOM medical team screened for TB 10,375 newly arrived refugees (49% males and 51% females). One new extrapulmonary TB case was diagnosed during the week. The total number of TB cases diagnosed to date is 51; 37 Pulmonary TB including 3 MDR cases and 14 extrapulmonary.

## 8. Reproductive health

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- Between 1<sup>st</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of May at UNFPA/JHAS and UNFPA/Aman clinics, a total of 1392 women received reproductive health services, 729 of them younger than 24 years old, and 663 older than 24 years old. These services were provided both in clinics in refugee camps (Za'atri, Cyber City) and in the host community (Nazal, Al Hashemi, Mafraq, Ramtha, Irbid, Medina, Zarqa, and mobile clinics in the north and south of the country). In total, 310 pregnant women received antenatal care, 61 post-natal care and 339 of beneficiaries attended clinics for family planning purposes.
- Fifty five women from the communities of Nazal and Hashimi benefited from awareness sessions on sexually transmitted infections, including their possible complications and the importance of diagnosis and correct treatment. Another 196 women attended sessions on family planning and breastfeeding in Ramtha and the refugee camps (Cyber City and Za'atri).
- During 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> May, a training on the Minimal Initial Services Package (MISP) in Reproductive Health was carried out by IFH and supported by UNFPA targeting 25 governmental and non-governmental health service providers in Amman.
- Family Protection Department (FPD) supported by UNFPA completed its first training workshop on the Prevention and Response to Gender-based Violence (GBV) cases in Emergency Settings. This 3-day training targeted 22 FPD staff. Six more training workshops are planned to take place during May and June 2013 in Amman, Mafraq, Irbid, Aqaba, Zarqa and Za'atri. The agenda includes: interactive sessions on GBV, focusing on domestic violence and SGBV, the role of FPD and police personnel, how to care for GBV survivors, code of conduct and some case studies. On May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, a two-day training on the Code of Conduct in emergency settings took place with 16 community-based organization employees.

## 9. Food Security/ Nutrition

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- During the last week, 1,010 mothers and 540 children under five visited the two UNICEF/Save the Children Jordan (SCJ) Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) caravans in Za'atari camp. In addition, 1,937 children

under five and lactating mothers received nutritional snacks. Through this programme, UNICEF/SCJ provide nutritional support and guidance, which includes breastfeeding promotion, complementary child feeding, one-to-one counseling, and health education sessions for pregnant and lactating women in the camp.

- UNICEF is in the process of identifying potential partners for the expansion of the IYCF programme to the new Azraq camp.
- Nutritional surveillance and case finding continues to be undertaken by SCJ inside Za'atari camp: 15,767 children 6-59 months of age screened with 32 children identified as severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 350 with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) which is a global acute malnutrition of 2.4% and a SAM of 0.2%.
- Medair/JHAS outside camp have screened 1,436 children 6-59 months of age in April and have identified 16 moderate acute malnutrition cases and no SAM cases. This is a GAM of 1.1%. Of 492 pregnant and lactating women screened in April five MAM cases were identified (1%). Some of these were Jordanians.
- MSF report that they have received approval from JFDA to use Plumpy Nut® in Za'atri camp for treatment of SAM.
- SCJ has received funding for anaemia programme in Za'atri camp in children under five (2000 children). The modalities of screening and follow-up are being developed.

## 10. Other updates

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- Some Syrians have been facing difficulties obtaining birth certificates for their newborn infants as all their identification documents are held in Rabaa al Sarhan security centre. This in turn stops them from being able to vaccinate their children as the birth certificate is required before a newborn is enrolled in the National EPI Programme. The problem has been referred to UNHCR protection but will also be taken up with the Ministry of Health.