

PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETIN-PAKISTAN

Integrated Disease Surveillance & Response (IDSR) Report

Center of Disease Control
National Institute of Health, Islamabad

<http://www.phb.nih.org.pk/>

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Integrated Disease Surveillance & Response (IDSR) Weekly Public Health Bulletin is your go-to resource for disease trends, outbreak alerts, and crucial public health information. By reading and sharing this bulletin, you can help increase awareness and promote preventive measures within your community.



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Overview

Public Health Bulletin - Pakistan, Week 47, 2024

IDSR Reports

Ongoing Events

Evolving from a basic disease registry, Pakistan's Public Health Bulletin has become an indispensable tool for safeguarding public health. By meticulously tracking disease trends, the Bulletin serves as an early warning system, enabling timely interventions to prevent outbreaks.

Field Reports

This Weeks Highlights include;

- *National Multi-Stakeholder Consultative Meeting on Gender Equity in the Fight against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)*
- *Outbreak investigation of Typhoid Fever in Killi Mughtian, District Pishin, Balochistan May 2024.*
- *A knowledge review on mumps*

By transforming complex health data into actionable intelligence, the Public Health Bulletin continues to be an indispensable tool in our collective journey toward a healthier Pakistan.

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*Sincerely,
The Chief Editor*



- During week 47, the most frequently reported cases were of Acute Diarrhea (Non-Cholera) followed by Malaria, ILI, TB, ALRI <5 years, dog bite, B. Diarrhea, VH (B, C & D), Typhoid and SARI.
- Twenty-nine cases of AFP reported from KP, seventeen from Punjab, thirteen from Sindh and one from AJK. All are suspected cases and need field verification.
- Sixteen suspected cases of HIV/ AIDS reported from Punjab, six from KP, six from Sindh and one from Balochistan. Field investigation required to verify the cases.
- Twelve suspected cases of Brucellosis reported from KP. Field investigation required to verify the cases.

IDSR compliance attributes

- The national compliance rate for IDSR reporting in 158 implemented districts is 82%
- Gilgit Baltistan, Sindh and AJK are the top reporting regions with a compliance rate of 94, followed by ICT 80% and KP 75%
- The lowest compliance rate was observed in Balochistan 70%.

Region	Expected Reports	Received Reports	Compliance (%)
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	2319	1740	75
Azad Jammu Kashmir	405	381	94
Islamabad Capital Territory	36	29	80
Balochistan	1307	900	70
Gilgit Baltistan	407	385	94
Sindh	2094	1974	94
National	6568	5409	82



Public Health Actions

Federal, Provincial, Regional Health Departments and relevant programs may consider following public health actions to prevent and control diseases.

Viral Hepatitis

Strengthen Surveillance: Utilize the IDSR system to monitor hepatitis cases and guide targeted interventions in regions with high prevalence.

Increase Access to Testing and Treatment: Improve availability of hepatitis B and C testing and expand access to antiviral treatments, particularly in underserved areas.

Expand Community Education: Collaborate with local health workers to raise awareness about prevention, safe practices, and available treatments for hepatitis.

Meningitis

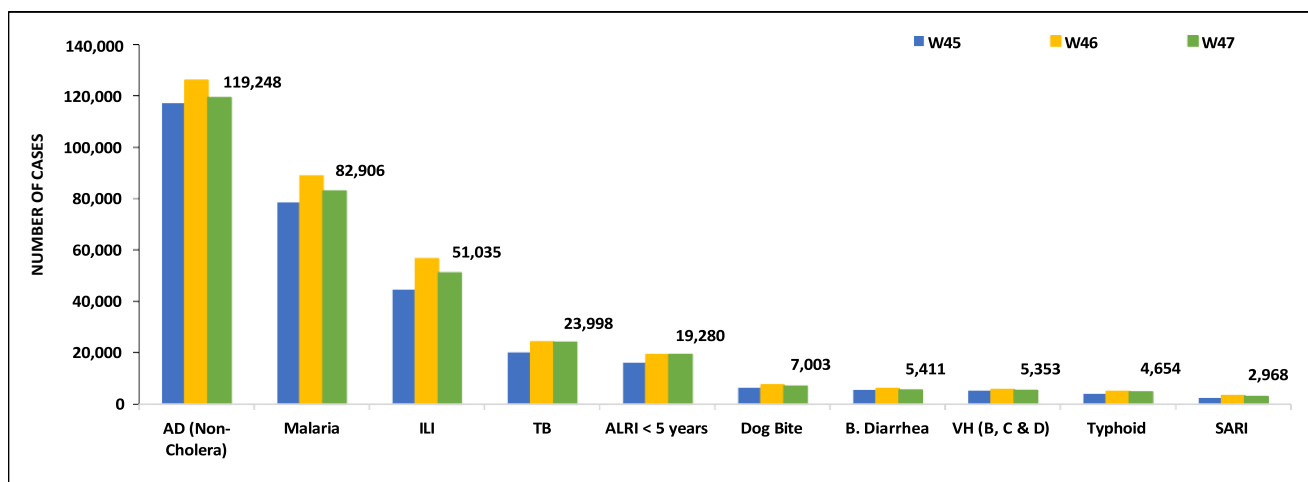
- **Enhance Surveillance via IDSR:** Strengthen the IDSR system to detect and respond quickly to meningitis cases, enabling timely outbreak management.
- **Public Education on Symptoms:** Raise awareness about the early symptoms of meningitis to encourage prompt medical treatment and reduce complications.



Table 1: Province/Area wise distribution of most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 47, Pakistan.

Diseases	AJK	Balochistan	GB	ICT	KP	Punjab	Sindh	Total
AD (Non-Cholera)	1,125	3,628	636	221	17,940	59,643	36,055	119,248
Malaria	6	4,888	1	0	6,601	3,003	68,407	82,906
ILI	2,710	5,133	473	1,627	5,766	3	35,323	51,035
TB	58	63	64	9	620	10,370	12,814	23,998
ALRI < 5 years	1,565	1,404	1,051	16	1,159	1,318	12,767	19,280
Dog Bite	75	122	5	0	674	3,666	2,461	7,003
B. Diarrhea	39	770	69	2	725	594	3,212	5,411
VH (B, C & D)	13	128	4	0	273	0	4,935	5,353
Typhoid	21	536	54	0	983	2,030	1,030	4,654
SARI	325	684	256	2	1,489	0	212	2,968
Dengue	12	1	26	0	313	1,154	87	1,593
AWD (S. Cholera)	37	178	8	0	131	579	0	933
AVH (A & E)	24	0	9	0	323	0	198	554
Measles	7	24	2	3	222	196	32	486
CL	0	126	0	0	187	0	1	314
Mumps	7	41	5	0	109	0	126	288
Chikungunya	0	0	0	0	8	0	270	278
Chickenpox/ Varicella	12	2	16	2	85	14	17	148
Meningitis	6	0	1	0	2	69	8	86
AFP	1	0	0	0	29	17	13	60
Pertussis	0	29	9	0	9	0	7	54
Gonorrhoea	0	21	0	0	16	0	11	48
Diphtheria (Probable)	0	5	0	0	17	7	11	40
HIV/AIDS	0	1	0	0	6	16	6	29
Leprosy	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	23
Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	15
Brucellosis	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	12
NT	0	1	0	0	6	3	0	10
Rubella (CRS)	0	7	0	0	0	2	0	9

Figure 1: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 47, Pakistan.

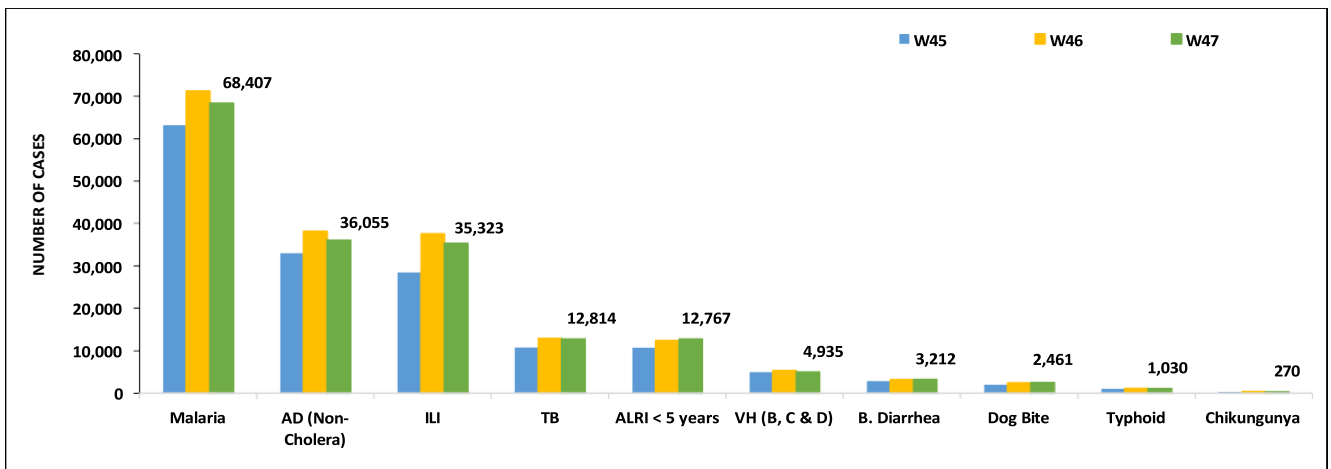


- Malaria cases were maximum followed by AD (Non-Cholera), ILI, TB, ALRI<5 Years, VH (B, C, D), B. Diarrhea, dog bite, Typhoid and chikungunya.
- Malaria cases are mostly from Larkana, Khairpur and Dadu whereas AD (Non-Cholera) cases are from Mirpurkhas, Khairpur, Badin.
- Thirteen cases of AFP reported from Sindh. All are suspected cases and need field verification.
- Six suspected cases of HIV/ AIDS reported from Sindh. Field investigation required to verify the case.

Table 2: District wise distribution of most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 47, Sindh

Districts	Malaria	AD (Non-Cholera)	ILI	TB	ALRI < 5 years	VH (B, C & D)	B. Diarrhea	Dog Bite	Typhoid	AVH (A&E)
Badin	2,219	2,091	3,847	912	889	286	218	94	55	0
Dadu	5,530	1,821	585	502	1,179	127	420	284	115	0
Ghotki	1,615	587	53	259	279	219	78	245	4	0
Hyderabad	386	1,663	2,845	66	115	30	0	0	15	0
Jacobabad	2,177	855	1,011	127	359	275	100	144	41	0
Jamshoro	3,257	1,546	139	589	448	147	88	56	64	0
Kamber	5,144	1,747	0	1,028	357	141	102	152	23	0
Karachi Central	21	557	1,693	24	12	6	12	0	77	207
Karachi East	62	384	800	23	18	5	7	11	3	0
Karachi Keamari	13	464	301	6	73	0	3	0	7	20
Karachi Korangi	26	235	0	16	2	0	1	0	1	0
Karachi Malir	535	1,440	3,974	180	379	51	47	50	39	43
Karachi South	33	60	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Karachi West	225	908	1,246	121	172	122	30	31	27	0
Kashmore	3,988	483	665	377	290	51	112	223	13	0
Khairpur	6,217	2,230	7,092	1,091	1,188	179	328	167	188	0
Larkana	7,198	1,682	10	988	548	81	365	35	9	0
Matiari	1,816	1,115	3	558	350	261	54	46	6	0
Mirpurkhas	2,831	2,316	4,841	920	841	88	137	78	13	0
Naushero Feroze	2,203	1,168	799	475	459	45	118	176	115	0
Sanghar	4,306	1,687	126	1,272	642	1,092	40	207	35	0
Shaheed Benazirabad	1,689	1,637	10	336	279	60	77	130	106	0
Shikarpur	4,101	1,241	4	315	264	997	190	128	4	0
Sujawal	1,124	1,142	0	113	443	25	122	22	0	0
Sukkur	4,114	1,150	1,842	559	460	61	138	110	8	0
Tando Allahyar	1,939	986	1,279	512	391	297	120	44	9	0
Tando Muhammad Khan	900	884	0	563	211	47	107	3	0	0
Tharparkar	2,359	1,769	1,858	407	862	63	86	0	16	0
Thatta	545	795	297	32	642	64	42	25	10	0
Umerkot	1,834	1,412	0	443	615	115	70	0	27	0
Total	68,407	36,055	35,323	12,814	12,767	4,935	3,212	2,461	1,030	270

Figure 2: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 47 Sindh

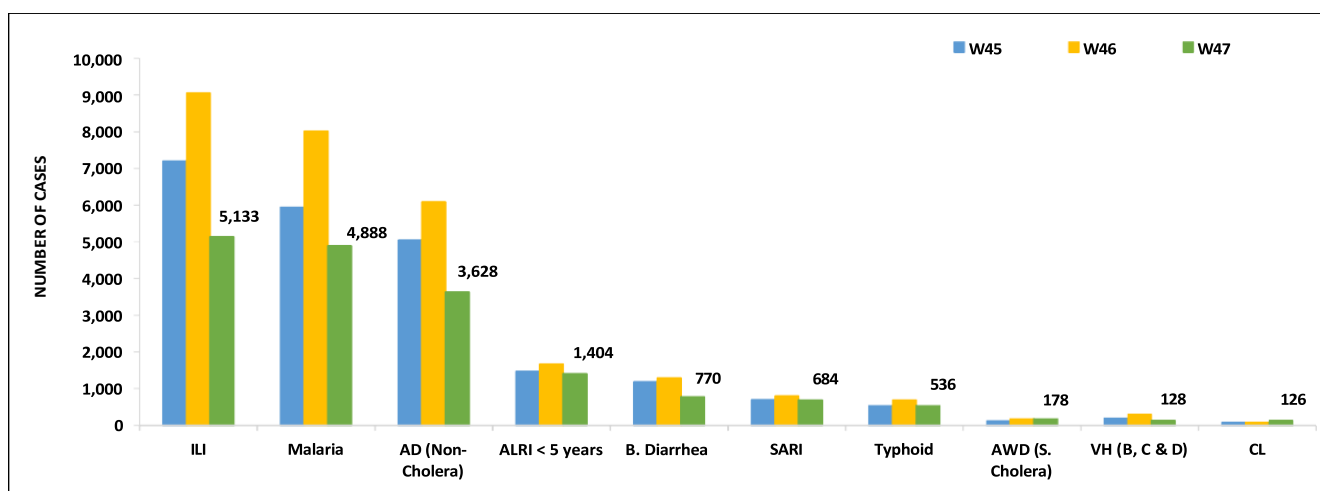


- ILI, Malaria, AD (Non-Cholera), ALRI <5 years, B. Diarrhea, SARI, Typhoid, AWD (S. Cholera), VH(B,C&D) and CL cases were the most frequently reported diseases from Balochistan province.
- ILI cases are mostly reported from Quetta, Jhal Magsi and Khuzdar while Malaria cases are mostly reported from Jhal Magsi, Naseerabad and Lasbella.
- One suspected case of HIV/ AIDS reported from Balochistan. Field investigation required to verify the case.

Table 3: District wise distribution of most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 47, Balochistan

Districts	AD (Non-Cholera)	Malaria	ILI	B. Diarrhea	ALRI < 5 years	Typhoid	SARI	AWD (S.Cholera)	TB	CL
Barkhan	89	71	68	38	5	13	21	6	1	2
Chagai	241	100	93	0	20	0	16	0	1	0
Dera Bugti	62	141	49	58	14	3	8	0	0	0
Duki	56	20	52	18	21	11	4	0	0	2
Gwadar	20	15	24	16	1	0	16	0	4	0
Hub	65	117	94	10	4	0	0	0	0	0
Jhal Magsi	526	1,234	286	260	2	3	20	38	0	2
Kalat	0	30	25	21	3	2	24	0	0	0
Kharan	409	55	128	0	59	10	5	2	0	0
Khuzdar	479	233	274	14	109	49	55	15	0	0
Kohlu	461	117	151	9	73	64	54	NR	4	1
Lasbella	66	545	323	94	53	0	22	0	5	10
Loralai	345	36	135	52	22	103	22	0	0	10
Mastung	166	54	123	80	36	22	17	0	1	0
MusaKhel	53	124	35	12	8	5	7	8	9	1
Naseerabad	42	733	317	26	18	0	90	2	83	17
Nushki	29	7	125	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
Panjgur	171	212	132	74	38	4	14	12	0	0
Quetta	614	18	184	103	34	110	32	51	0	6
Sibi	190	390	226	176	75	188	80	32	0	74
Surab	168	77	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Usta Muhammad	226	326	450	144	43	33	7	2	20	1
Washuk	413	151	195	3	91	8	13	2	0	0
Zhob	172	76	67	193	21	56	5	5	0	0
Ziarat	70	6	6	3	12	0	4	3	0	0
Total	5,133	4,888	3,628	1,404	770	684	536	178	128	126

Figure 3: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 47, Balochistan

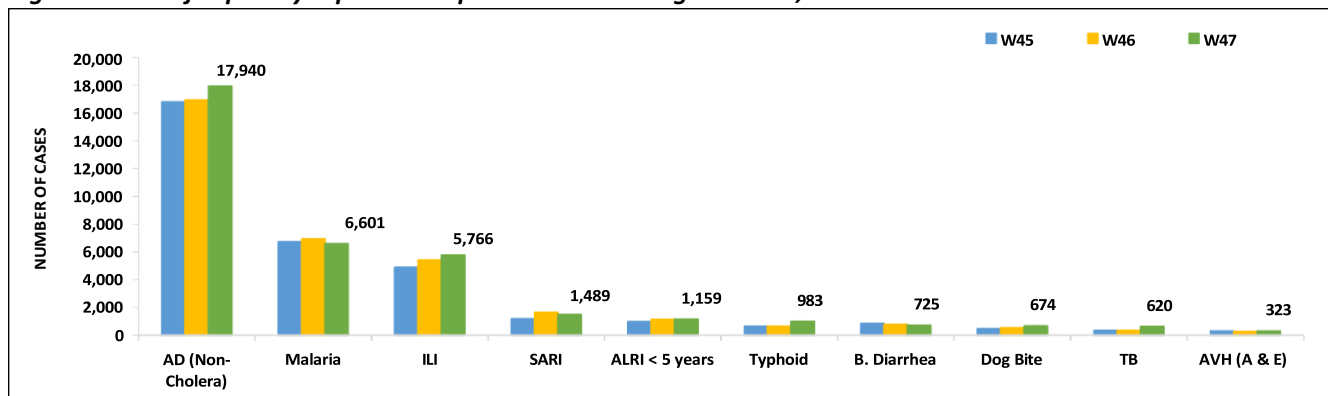


- Cases of AD (Non-Cholera) were maximum followed by Malaria, ILI, SARI, ALRI<5 Years, Typhoid, B. Diarrhea, dog bite, TB and AVH (A & E) cases.
- AD (Non-Cholera), ILI, Typhoid, dog bite, TB and AVH (A & E) cases showed an increasing trend while Malaria, SARI and B. Diarrhea cases showed a decreasing trend and ALRI<5 years cases showed same trend this week.
- Twenty-nine cases of AFP, Six suspected cases of HIV/ AIDS, Twelve suspected cases of Brucellosis reported from KP. All are suspected cases and need field verification.

Table 4: District wise distribution of most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 47, KP

Districts	AD (Non-Cholera)	Malaria	ILI	B.Diarrhea	SARI	ALRI <5 Years	Typhoid	Dog Bite	TB	AVH (A&E)
Abbottabad	780	60	278	111	123	420	6	2	190	1
Bajaur	939	212	96	94	20	0	63	63	16	57
Bannu	619	1,837	9	17	17	89	28	4	20	13
Battagram	94	30	513	NR	NR	0	NR	13	42	NR
Buner	207	265	40	0	2	2	0	13	3	0
Charsadda	1,022	380	475	5	87	106	59	2	4	21
Chitral Lower	218	11	112	35	16	4	11	10	4	1
Chitral Upper	68	0	2	3	28	10	5	6	2	1
D.I. Khan	1,152	671	0	0	4	2	17	19	38	2
Dir Lower	966	380	2	0	105	47	89	77	13	26
Dir Upper	709	7	104	0	18	1	1	0	15	0
Hangu	63	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Haripur	480	13	402	14	91	6	8	2	22	26
Karak	291	204	44	482	17	6	20	18	4	3
Khyber	352	142	0	39	19	57	84	0	0	0
Kohat	425	191	180	80	11	5	11	12	0	0
Kohistan Lower	131	4	6	9	4	0	6	0	2	11
Kohistan Upper	383	42	31	0	6	12	20	0	18	0
Kolai Palas	63	3	15	7	7	4	6	0	1	0
L & C Kurram	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lakki Marwat	588	410	0	0	32	2	24	50	8	0
Malakand	624	42	0	9	19	30	67	0	0	40
Mansehra	396	4	559	58	29	14	4	65	6	4
Mardan	556	25	0	0	47	2	5	69	6	0
Mohmand	140	314	175	168	5	8	33	9	0	0
North Waziristan	39	26	0	32	0	7	12	0	1	0
Nowshera	998	141	18	2	3	14	16	0	14	19
Orakzai	99	4	14	0	0	5	12	1	0	0
Peshawar	2,183	70	1,442	196	215	37	66	12	13	8
SD Tank	10	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shangla	622	416	8	29	12	27	4	65	92	3
SWA	51	60	188	25	11	11	11	8	6	0
Swabi	913	37	777	56	80	11	1	117	50	9
Swat	1,215	40	118	0	111	14	9	28	3	74
Tank	481	459	142	0	18	24	4	4	24	0
Tor Ghar	37	60	0	18	2	6	19	5	1	4
Upper Kurram	24	0	13	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Total	17,940	6,601	5,766	1,489	1,159	983	725	674	620	323

Figure 4: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 47, KP



ICT, AJK & GB

ICT: The most frequently reported cases from Islamabad were ILI followed by AD (Non-Cholera) and ALRI<5 years.

AJK: ILI cases were maximum followed by ALRI < 5years, AD (Non-Cholera), SARI, dog bite, TB, B. Diarrhea,AWD(S.Cholera) , AVH (A & E) and Typhoid cases. One suspected case of AFP reported from AJK. Field investigation required to verify the case.

GB: ALRI <5 Years cases were the most frequently reported diseases followed by AD (Non-Cholera), ILI, SARI,B. Diarrhea, TB and Typhoid cases.

Figure 5: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 47, ICT

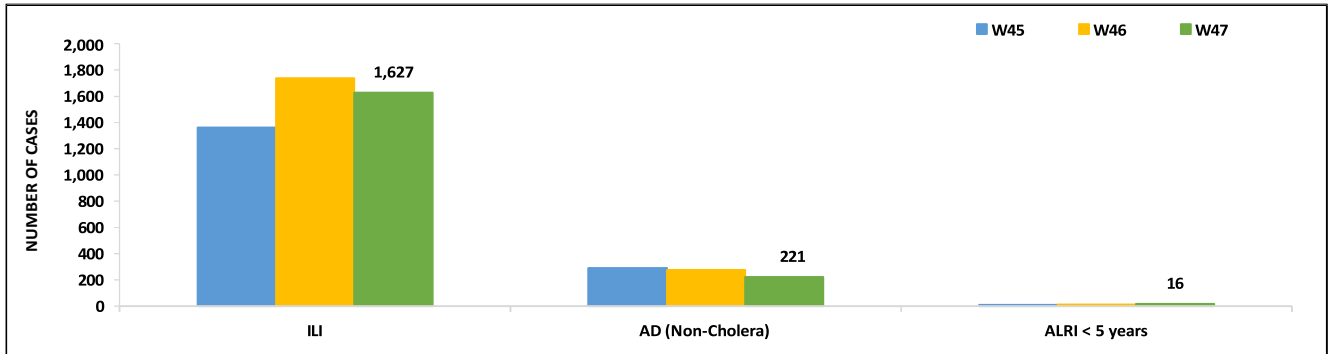


Figure 6: Week wise reported suspected cases of ILI, ICT

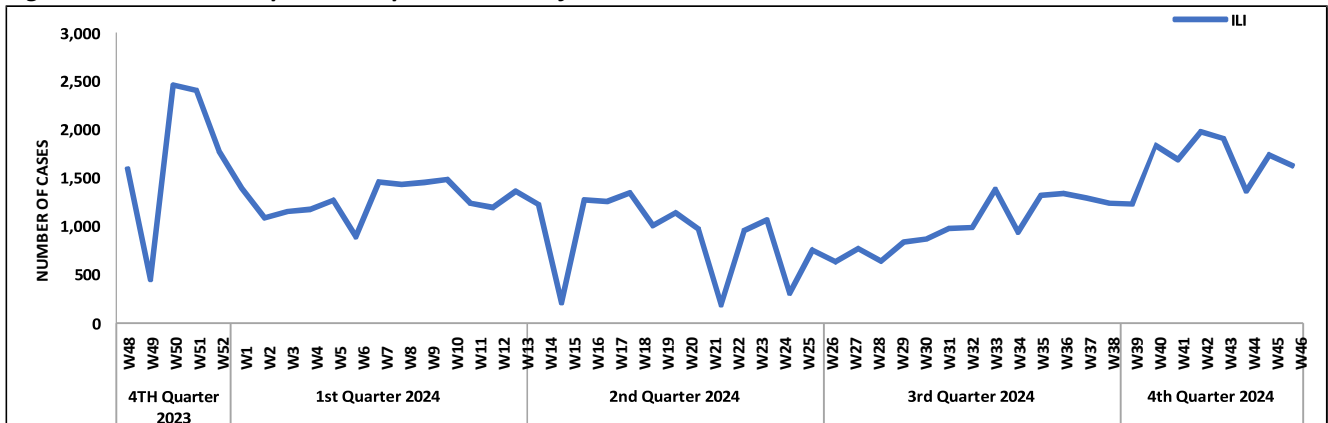


Figure 7: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 47, AJK

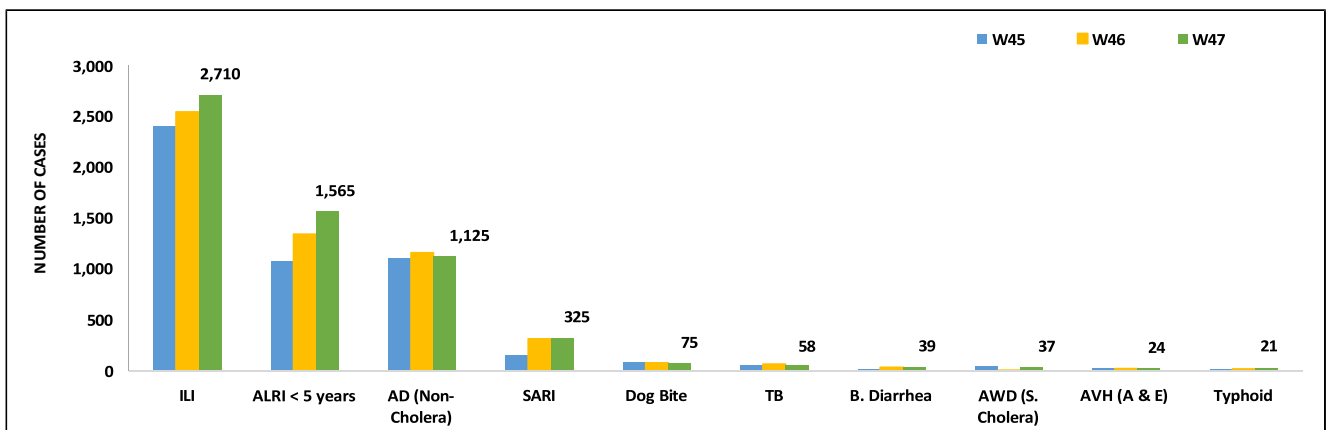


Figure 8: Week wise reported suspected cases of ILI and AD (Non-Cholera) AJK

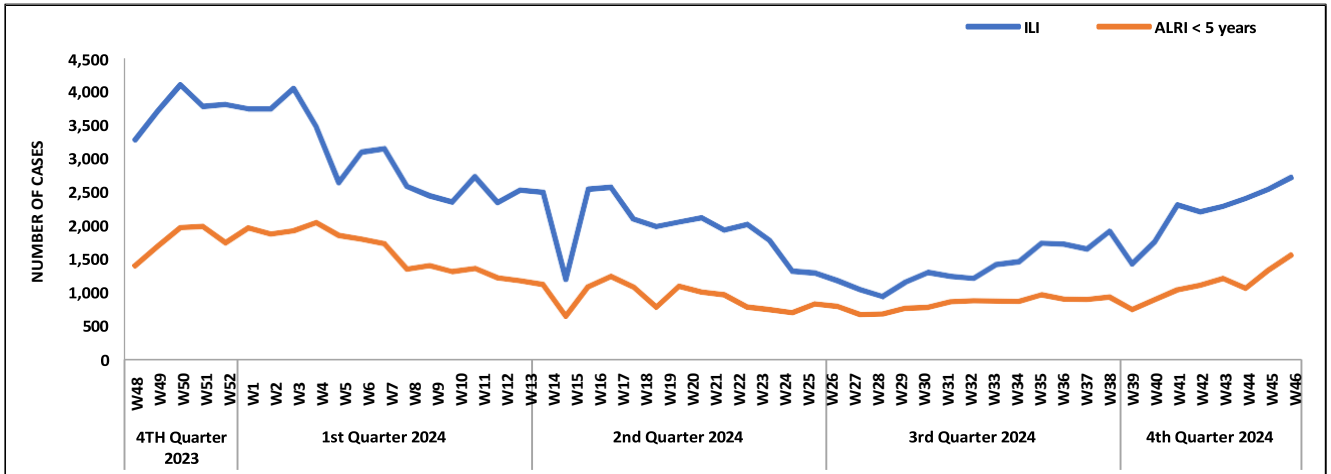


Figure 9: Most frequent cases reported during Week 47, GB

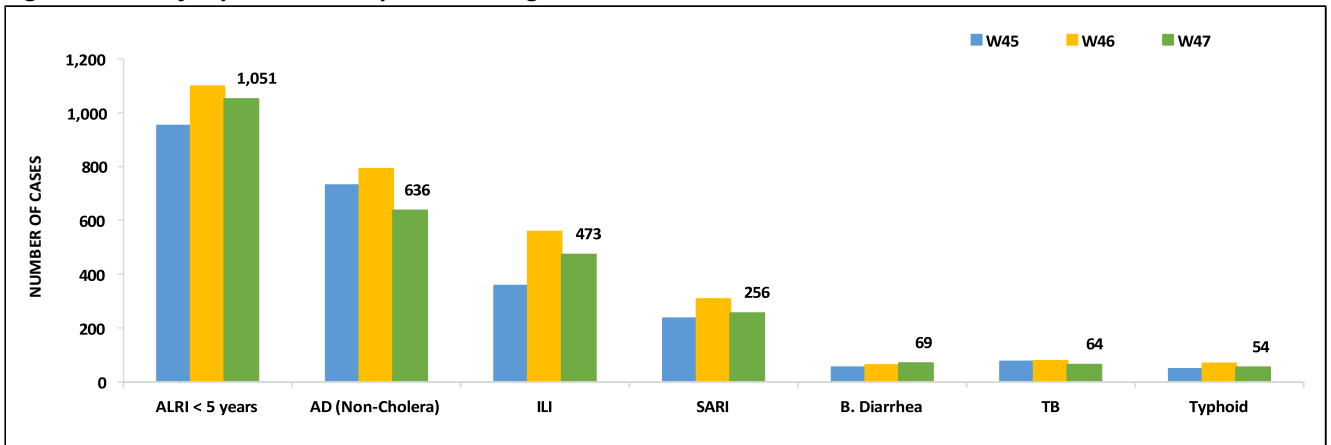
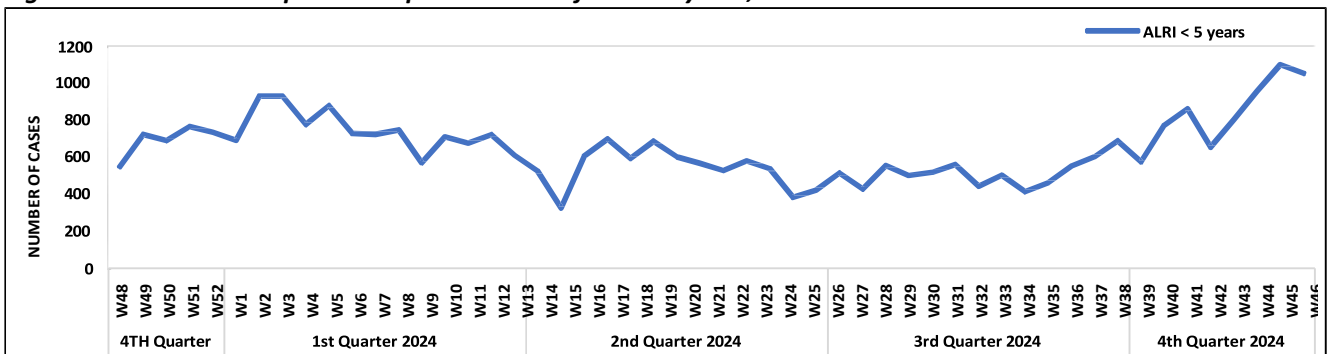


Figure 10: Week wise reported suspected cases of ALRI < 5 years, GB



Punjab

- AD (Non-Cholera) cases were maximum followed by TB, dog bite, Malaria, Typhoid, ALRI<5 Years, B. Diarrhea, AWD (S. Cholera) and Measles cases.
- Seventeen cases of AFP, Sixteen suspected cases of HIV/ AIDS reported from Punjab. All are suspected cases and need field verification.

Figure 11: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 47, Punjab.

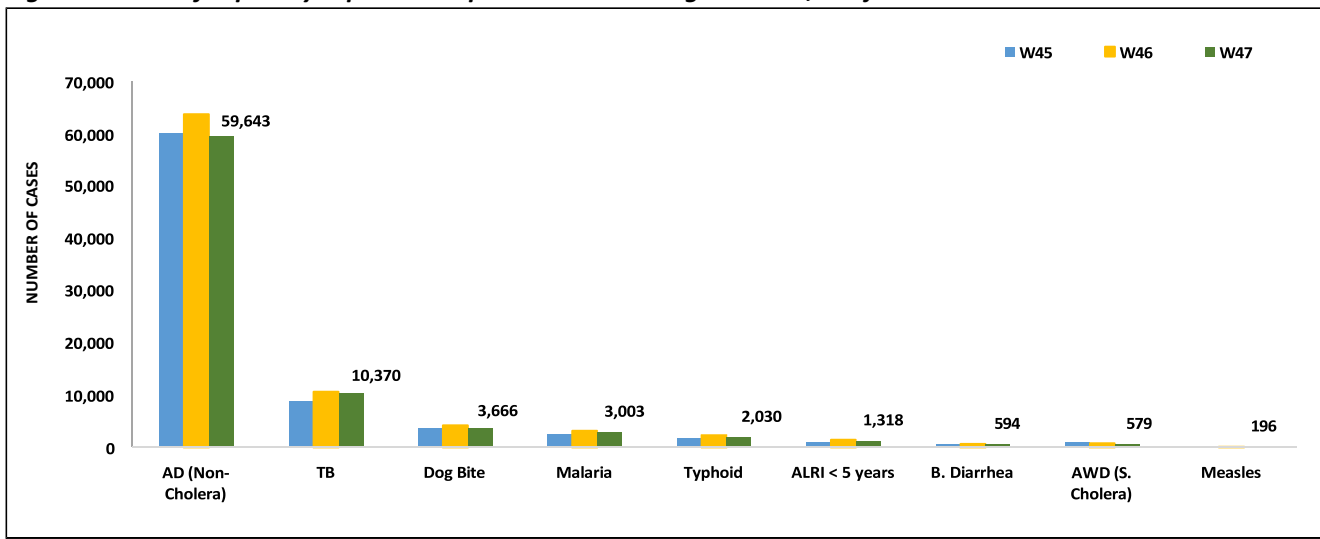


Figure 12: Week wise reported suspected cases of AD (Non-Cholera), Punjab.

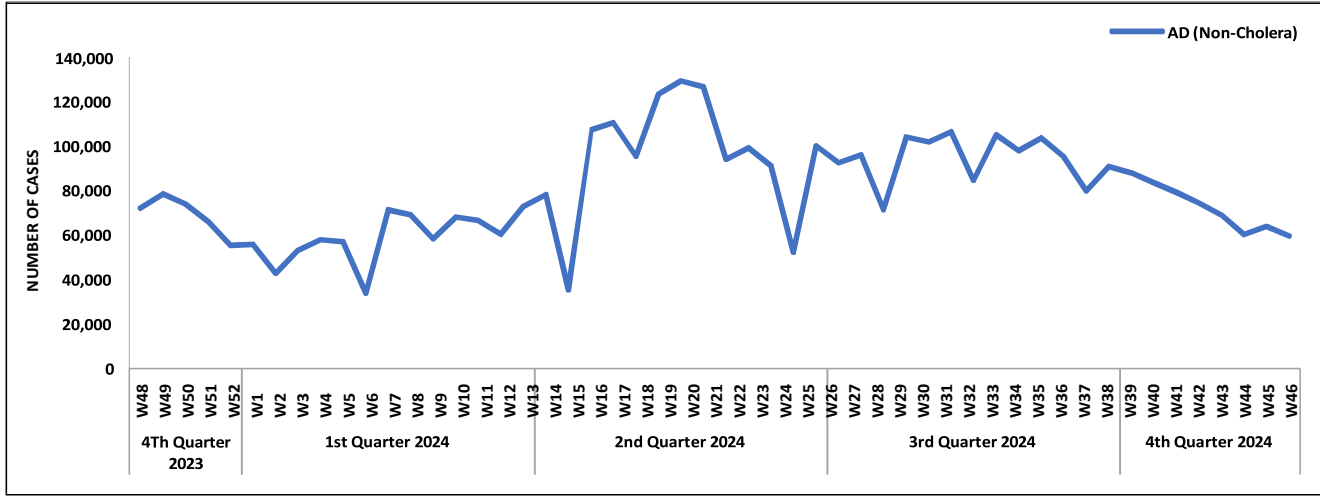


Table 5: Public Health Laboratories confirmed cases of IDSR Priority Diseases during Epid Week 47

Diseases	Sindh		Balochistan		KPK		ISL		GB		Punjab		AJK	
	Total Test	Total Pos	Total Test	Total Pos	Total Test	Total Pos	Total Test	Total Pos	Total Test	Total Pos	Total Test	Total Pos	Total Test	Total Pos
AWD (S. Cholera)	14	0	-	-	3	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	0
AD (Non-Cholera)	83	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	0
Malaria	1,018	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	224	5
CCHF	-	-	1	0	1	0	4	0	-	-	-	-	0	0
Dengue	876	22	0	0	-	-	35	11	-	-	-	-	135	9
VH (B)	3,026	111	0	0	-	-	-	-	219	8	-	-	1,652	15
VH (C)	3,025	324	0	0	-	-	-	-	180	0	-	-	1,655	28
Covid-19	-	-	8	0	-	-	1	0	-	-	-	-	40	0
Chikungunya	-	-	0	0	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	0	0
TB	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	152	7
Syphilis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	0
B. Diarrhea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	2
Typhoid	528	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	2
Diphtheria (Probabale)	-	-	-	-	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Pertussis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
M-POX	-	-	0	0	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	0
Cutaneous Leishmaniansis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0
Visceral Leishmaniansis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0
Covid-19	Out of SARI	3	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	62	0	0
	Out of ILI	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	50	0	0
Influe nza A	Out of SARI	3	0	0	0	0	0	37	2	0	0	62	3	0
	Out of ILI	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	1	0	0	50	4	0
Influe nza B	Out of SARI	3	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	62	0	0
	Out of ILI	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	50	0	0
RSV	Out of SARI	3	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	62	0	0
	Out of ILI	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	50	0	0



IDSR Reports Compliance

- Out of 158 IDSR implemented districts, compliance is low from KP and Balochistan. Green color highlights >50% compliance while red color highlights <50% compliance

Table 6: IDSR reporting districts Week 47, 2024

Provinces/Regions	Districts	Total Number of Reporting Sites	Number of Reported Sites for current week	Compliance Rate (%)
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Abbottabad	111	100	90%
	Bannu	238	137	58%
	Battagram	63	31	49%
	Buner	34	33	97%
	Bajaur	44	39	89%
	Charsadda	59	59	100%
	Chitral Upper	34	27	79%
	Chitral Lower	35	35	100%
	D.I. Khan	114	112	98%
	Dir Lower	74	71	96%
	Dir Upper	37	30	81%
	Hangu	22	9	41%
	Haripur	72	65	90%
	Karak	35	35	100%
	Khyber	52	19	37%
	Kohat	61	61	100%
	Kohistan Lower	11	11	100%
	Kohistan Upper	20	20	100%
	Kolai Palas	10	10	100%
	Lakki Marwat	70	69	99%
	Lower & Central Kurram	42	1	2%
	Upper Kurram	41	6	15%
	Malakand	42	30	71%
	Mansehra	136	114	84%
	Mardan	80	75	94%
	Nowshera	55	52	95%
	North Waziristan	13	5	38%
	Peshawar	153	127	83%
	Shangla	37	35	95%
	Swabi	64	60	94%
	Swat	77	72	94%
	South Waziristan	135	55	41%
	Tank	34	31	91%
	Torghar	14	14	100%
	Mohmand	68	65	96%
	SD Peshawar	5	0	0%
	SD Tank	58	6	10%
	Orakzai	69	9	13%
	Mirpur	37	37	100%
	Bhimber	42	20	48%
	Kotli	60	60	100%



Azad Jammu Kashmir	Muzaffarabad	45	40	89%
	Poonch	46	46	100%
	Haveli	40	40	100%
	Bagh	40	40	100%
	Neelum	39	39	100%
	Jhelum Vellay	29	28	97%
	Sudhnooti	27	27	100%
Islamabad Capital Territory	ICT	21	21	100%
	CDA	15	8	53%
Balochistan	Gwadar	25	1	4%
	Kech	44	0	0%
	Khuzdar	74	58	78%
	Killa Abdullah	26	0	0%
	Lasbella	55	55	100%
	Pishin	69	0	0%
	Quetta	55	26	47%
	Sibi	36	35	97%
	Zhob	39	22	56%
	Jaffarabad	16	0	0%
	Naserabad	32	32	100%
	Kharan	30	30	100%
	Sherani	15	0	0%
	Kohlu	75	45	60%
	Chagi	36	15	42%
	Kalat	41	40	98%
	Harnai	17	0	0%
	Kachhi (Bolan)	35	0	0%
	Jhal Magsi	28	28	100%
	Sohbat pur	25	0	0%
	Surab	32	25	78%
	Mastung	45	45	100%
	Loralai	33	26	79%
	Killa Saifullah	28	0	0%
	Ziarat	29	6	21%
	Duki	31	11	35%
	Nushki	32	29	91%
	Dera Bugti	45	27	60%
	Washuk	46	32	70%
	Panjgur	38	18	47%
	Awaran	23	0	0%
	Chaman	24	0	0%
	Barkhan	20	17	85%
Hub	33	13	39%	
Musakhel	41	19	46%	
Usta Muhammad	34	34	100%	
Gilgit Baltistan	Hunza	32	31	97%
	Nagar	25	20	80%
	Ghizer	40	40	100%
	Gilgit	40	39	98%



	Diamer	62	61	98%
	Astore	54	53	98%
	Shigar	27	25	93%
	Skardu	52	52	100%
	Ganche	29	29	100%
	Kharmang	46	25	54%
Sindh	Hyderabad	74	69	93%
	Ghotki	64	63	98%
	Umerkot	43	43	100%
	Naushahro Feroze	107	96	90%
	Tharparkar	276	234	85%
	Shikarpur	60	59	98%
	Thatta	52	48	92%
	Larkana	67	66	99%
	Kamber Shadadkot	71	71	100%
	Karachi-East	23	19	83%
	Karachi-West	20	20	100%
	Karachi-Malir	37	27	73%
	Karachi-Kemari	18	18	100%
	Karachi-Central	11	6	55%
	Karachi-Korangi	18	15	83%
	Karachi-South	4	3	75%
	Sujawal	55	53	96%
	Mirpur Khas	106	102	96%
	Badin	125	124	99%
	Sukkur	64	63	98%
	Dadu	90	88	98%
	Sanghar	100	100	100%
	Jacobabad	44	44	100%
	Khairpur	170	166	98%
	Kashmore	59	59	100%
	Matari	42	42	100%
Jamshoro	75	73	97%	
Tando Allahyar	54	54	100%	
Tando Muhammad Khan	41	41	100%	
Shaheed Benazirabad	125	122	98%	



Table 7: IDSR reporting Tertiary care hospital Week 47, 2024

Provinces/Regions	Districts	Total Number of Reporting Sites	Number of Reported Sites for current week	Compliance Rate (%)
AJK	Mirpur	2	2	100%
	Bhimber	1	1	100%
	Kotli	1	1	100%
	Muzaffarabad	2	2	100%
	Poonch	2	2	100%
	Haveli	1	1	100%
	Bagh	1	1	100%
	Neelum	1	1	100%
	Jhelum Vellay	1	1	100%
	Sudhnooti	1	1	100%
Sindh	Karachi-South	1	0	0%
	Sukkur	1	0	0%
	Shaheed Benazirabad	1	1	100%
	Karachi-East	1	1	100%
	Karachi-Central	1	0	0%



National Multi-Stakeholder Consultative Meeting on Gender Equity in the Fight against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

The National Institute of Health (NIH), in collaboration with Jhpiego and the Fleming Fund, recently organized a significant national multi-stakeholder consultative meeting aimed at addressing gender equity in the battle against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). This event marks a pivotal step in recognizing the importance of gender inclusion in public health interventions and strategies.



A Unified Approach to Combat AMR

The event was inaugurated by the CEO of NIH, who underscored the critical importance of collaborative efforts in tackling the growing challenge of AMR. The Director-General of Health, also delivered remarks, reinforcing the need for a holistic approach that integrates gender considerations into all levels of AMR action.

The consultative meeting was organized in response to a key recommendation from the World Health Organization (WHO) to incorporate a gender perspective into national health policies, especially those addressing AMR. This recommendation is pivotal, given that gender disparities in health and access to medical resources can significantly influence the effectiveness of AMR strategies.



Moving Forward: Gender-Sensitive AMR Action Plans

The meeting concluded with a commitment to incorporate the insights and recommendations gathered during the discussions into the upcoming AMR National Action Plan 2.0. This revised plan will serve as a blueprint for Pakistan's strategy to combat AMR, with an enhanced focus on ensuring gender equity in all aspects of its implementation.

As the AMR challenge continues to grow, the need for inclusive, gender-sensitive approaches becomes ever more critical. By recognizing the different roles and needs of men, women, and marginalized groups, Pakistan can build a more comprehensive, effective, and equitable response to AMR.

This meeting underscores the importance of not only addressing AMR as a health issue but also ensuring that gender equity is firmly embedded in all aspects of the national response. By doing so, Pakistan will not only strengthen its fight against AMR but also promote a more inclusive and just healthcare system for all its citizens.

Notes from the field:

Outbreak investigation of Typhoid Fever in Killi Mughtian, District Pishin, Balochistan May 2024.

Dr. Ahmad Shah Kakar, MO Pishin

Mentor: Dr. Ehsan Larik

Introduction:

Typhoid fever, a serious bacterial infection caused by Salmonella Typhi, is prevalent in areas with poor sanitation and hygiene. It spreads through the fecal-oral route, affecting people with poor hygiene and

limited access to clean water. Globally, the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that approximately 11 million cases and over 60,000 deaths occur annually.

On May 21, 2024, a cluster of 11 suspected typhoid fever cases emerged from BHU Mughtian, located in the district of Pishin. Following confirmation by the District Health Officer (DHO) of Pishin and the in-charge of BHU Mughtian, an investigation was initiated on May 23, 2024, to assess the extent of the outbreak and identify potential risk factors.

Mughtian village, with a population of approximately 3583 individuals, is characterized by over 300 households, primarily constructed with mud. The low socioeconomic status of the community, coupled with a literacy rate of only 34%, further exacerbates the challenges in implementing effective public health measures.

Objectives:

- To identify and confirm typhoid cases
- To determine the magnitude of the outbreak.
- To identify risk factors

Methods:

A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted in Mughtian village, Pishin district, Balochistan, to investigate the typhoid fever outbreak. Data was collected through structured interviews using a modified CDC standard questionnaire. A case of typhoid fever was defined as any individual residing in Killi Mughtian between May 5th and June 5th, 2024, who presented with acute febrile illness (temperature $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$) for three or more days, accompanied by abdominal discomfort, fatigue, diarrhea, or constipation. Five samples from suspected cases were collected and sent to a laboratory for culture and sensitivity testing to confirm the diagnosis of typhoid fever. Data analysis was performed using Microsoft Excel. Descriptive statistics, including frequencies, percentages, attack rate, and case fatality rate, were calculated to summarize the findings.

Results:

A total of 25 cases of typhoid fever were identified during the outbreak investigation in Mughtian village. The median age of the affected individuals was 3 years, (range 2-10 years). Children under the age of 5 years were disproportionately affected (68%). The male-to-female ratio was 2:3, with a higher proportion of female cases (60%). The most common symptoms reported by the affected individuals were fever (60%), abdominal discomfort (40%), diarrhea (40%), and body ache (20%). Out of the collected

samples, three returned positive for Salmonella Typhi. The attack rate was calculated to be 6 per 1000 population. Unhygienic practices (70%), lack of clean water (40%), street food consumption (30%), and overcrowding (20%) were the most common risk factors.

Discussion:

The outbreak investigation in Mughtian village revealed a significant number of typhoid fever cases, primarily affecting young children. This finding aligns with previous studies that have highlighted the vulnerability of children to typhoid fever, especially in low-resource settings with poor sanitation and hygiene (World Health Organization, 2023). The predominance of cases in the under-5 age group underscores the importance of targeted interventions to protect young children.

Several risk factors contributed to the outbreak, including unhygienic practices, lack of clean water, street food consumption, and overcrowding. These findings align with the importance of sanitation and hygiene in preventing typhoid fever [1, 2].

The male-to-female ratio of 2:3 indicates a higher prevalence among females, which may be attributed to various sociocultural factors influencing hygiene practices and exposure to risk factors. The limited number of laboratory tests conducted highlights the need for improved access to diagnostic services in rural areas.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, this outbreak investigation highlights the ongoing challenge of typhoid fever in the district. Addressing the identified risk factors through improved sanitation, access to clean water, and public health education is crucial to prevent future outbreaks and protect public health.

Recommendations:

Surveillance and outbreak response: Establishing a robust surveillance system to detect and respond to outbreaks promptly.

Improved sanitation and hygiene: Promoting hand washing with soap, safe disposal of feces, and proper food hygiene.

Access to safe water: Ensuring access to clean and safe drinking water through the provision of water treatment and storage facilities.

Vaccination: Enhancement of acquired immunity through typhoid vaccination campaigns in the affected areas by the District/provincial EPI



Health education: Conducting health education campaigns to raise awareness about typhoid fever, its transmission, and prevention measures.

References:

1. Farooqui A, Khan A, Kazmi SU. Investigation of a community outbreak of typhoid fever associated with drinking water. *BMC Public Health*. 2009;9(1):1-6.
2. Khan A, Farooqui A, Kazmi SU. Typhoid fever in Pakistan: Challenges, Efforts, and Recommendations. *PMC*. 2021;15:1-11.
3. WHO. Typhoid fever. World Health Organization. [Accessed 2023 June 10].

Knowledge Hub

Understanding Mumps and Its Impact on Public Health

Introduction

Mumps is a highly contagious viral infection primarily affecting children, though it can occur at any age. The infection is caused by the mumps virus, which leads to inflammation of the salivary glands, particularly the parotid glands. While mumps was once a common childhood illness, its incidence has drastically reduced due to widespread vaccination. However, recent outbreaks have reminded us of the ongoing need for vigilance and immunization efforts to control this disease.

What is Mumps?

Mumps is a viral infection that typically presents with swelling of the salivary glands, fever, headache, and muscle aches. The mumps virus is transmitted through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks, and it can also spread through direct contact with saliva or contaminated surfaces.

Symptoms of Mumps

- Swelling of one or both parotid glands (located near the jaw)
- Fever
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Loss of appetite

While mumps is generally a mild illness, complications can occur, including viral meningitis, encephalitis, hearing loss, and in rare cases, infertility in males.

Preventing Mumps: The Role of Vaccination

The most effective method of preventing mumps is vaccination, primarily through the **Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)** vaccine. The introduction of the MMR vaccine has drastically reduced the number of mumps cases worldwide, including in Pakistan.

- **MMR Vaccine Coverage:** In Pakistan, the routine childhood immunization schedule includes the MMR vaccine, which is administered to children at 9 months and again at 18 months of age. Ensuring high coverage of this vaccine is critical for maintaining herd immunity and preventing outbreaks.
- **Vaccine Hesitancy:** Despite the availability of vaccines, some areas in Pakistan continue to face vaccine hesitancy due to misinformation, cultural beliefs, or lack of awareness. Addressing these concerns through community outreach and education is essential to increase vaccine acceptance and prevent future outbreaks.

Key Takeaways

While mumps has become less common due to the success of the MMR vaccine, the risk of outbreaks remains, particularly in areas with lower immunization coverage. Continued efforts to educate the public, improve vaccine coverage, and strengthen surveillance are essential to controlling mumps and protecting public health in Pakistan.

Public Health Resources

For additional information and updates, the following organizations provide valuable resources:

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):** <https://www.cdc.gov/>
- **World Health Organization (WHO):** <https://www.who.int/>
- **Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC):** <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health.html>



PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST MUMPS



MMR VACCINATION IS THE BEST WAY TO PREVENT MUMPS!

THERE IS NO TREATMENT FOR MUMPS IF YOU GET IT

KEEP FROM SPREADING MUMPS



Don't share things that have saliva on them



Cover your coughs and sneezes



Stay home when you are sick



Wash your hands often with soap and water



Clean and disinfect surfaces

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF MUMPS



Mumps is best known for the puffy cheeks and swollen jaw that it causes.



Fever



Headache



Loss of appetite



Muscle aches



Tiredness

VACCINATION ALSO HELPS PREVENT MUMPS COMPLICATIONS



Complications can include swelling of the:

- testicles
- ovaries
- breasts
- pancreas
- brain
- spinal cord tissue

IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS, STAY HOME AND AWAY FROM OTHERS. CONTACT YOUR DOCTOR OR HEALTH SERVICES AT YOUR INSTITUTION.



CS302940 2019

<https://www.cdc.gov/mumps/infographics/mumps-protect-yourself.jpg>

