

Somalia Emergency Health Update

BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

Weekly Highlights 17 – 23 Dec 2011

- ✦ A high number of suspected malaria case continue to be reported in the regions of Lower and Middle Jubba. In the reporting week more than 1500 cases were registered at the health facilities.
- ✦ 13 disease surveillance staff in the field attended an orientation session on the revised surveillance system for 2012. With the new surveillance reporting, data for 9 health events will be collected. Reporting sites have been reduced to 129.
- ✦ Health cluster partners continue to undertake health interventions. See page 4 on response.

For further information please contact: Pieter Desloovere - Communications Officer - deslooverep@nbo.emro.who.int - T: +254 733 410 984

Epidemiological surveillance

- [Acute Watery Diarrhoea](#)
- [Measles](#)
- [Malaria](#)
- [Acute Respiratory Infections](#)
- [Conflict Related Injuries](#)

Health Response

- [Primary Health Care](#)
- [Disease surveillance](#)
- [Mental Health](#)

Disease highlights for the first two weeks of December 2011:

During the first two weeks of December 2011:

- a total of 3520 cases of AWD (including 1018 under five years) with 52 related deaths reported for the South Central Zone.
- The highest numbers of cases were reported in Banadir region with 1826 cases including 1286 (70%) children under five years.

During the first two weeks of December 2011, over **772** suspected measles cases (including 565 under the age of five) and **2** related deaths have been reported in South and Central Somalia.

During the first two weeks of December 2011, a total of 2077 suspected malaria cases were reported in South and Central Somalia, including 760 cases under the age of five and 4 related deaths (all under the age of five).



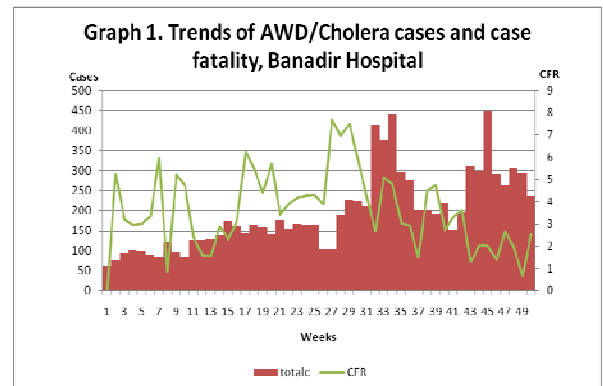
Patients seeking health services at an MCH in Mogadishu

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE (12 - 18 DECEMBER 2011, EPI WEEK 50)

ACUTE WATERY DIARRHOEA (SOURCE: CSR SENTINEL SITES)

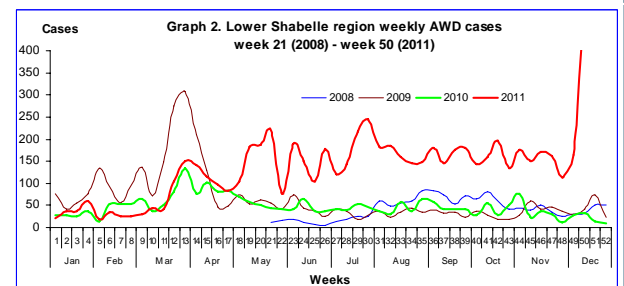
Banadir Hospital

- Since week 1¹, **9676** AWD/cholera cases were reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** including **6795** (70%) cases in children under the age of five and **332** related deaths (246 under the age of five) (see graph 1). The overall CFR is 3.43.
- Women and girls account for **47%** of all reported cases at the hospital.
- For this reporting week², Banadir Hospital reported **237** cases of AWD, including 172 (**73%**) children under the age of five, with 6 related deaths (5 under the age of five), giving a case fatality rate (CFR) of 2.53%. Of these cases 74% are women and girls. This week, a 19% decrease was reported compared to week 49 (during week 49 a total of 200 cases were reported). Reduced rainfall is being reported in region. The end of the cholera transmission season is near. Health and WASH cluster is disseminating 'Stamp out cholera! campaign' radio messages to the most affected areas in Somalia. This activity will take place during the next 4 months.



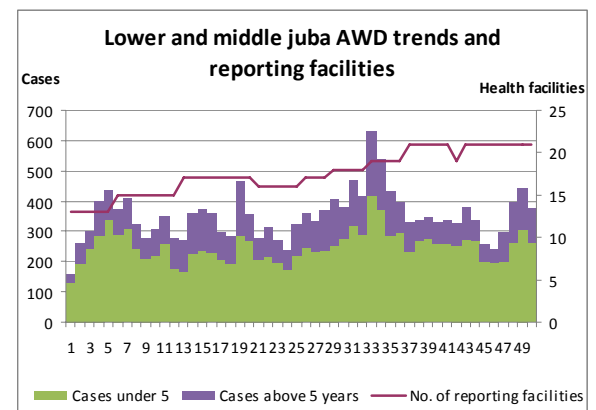
Lower Shabelle

- **522** AWD cases were reported from 56 health facilities (see graph 2), including 288 (55%) children under the age of five. Women and girls accounted for 62% of the reported cases. This is a 218% increase in cases. **Kurtunwarey district** accounted for 395 (76%) of all reported AWD cases. In week 49, only 10 cases were reported from the district. WHO and partners are investigating possible reasons for increase.
- **Merka** Hospital cholera treatment centre reported 13 AWD cases including 9 (69%) children under the age of five. The rest of the cases were women and children.



Lower and Middle Jubba

- 21 health facilities reported **377** cases of AWD/cholera, of which 263 (70%) were children under the age of five (see graph for trends). Compared to week 49 (446 reported cases), there was a 15% decrease in the number of reported cases. Women and girls accounted for 210 (56%) cases.
- **Jamaame and Kismayo districts** accounted for 19% and 32% of all reported AWD cases respectively.



Gedo

- In Dolow and Belet Xaawo districts, 8 facilities reported 44 AWD cases including 28 children under the age of five years with no related deaths. Of all the cases 59% were women and girls.

MEASLES (SOURCE: CSR SENTINEL SITES)

Lower Shabelle

- Health facilities in the region reported **139** suspected measles cases, including 116 (**83%**) children under the age of five and 4 related deaths under the age of five, giving a CFR of 2.88%. 53% of the cases were women and girls.

Lower and Middle Jubba

- Health facilities in the region reported 3 suspected measles cases, all of them are children under the age of five. 2 of these cases were girls.

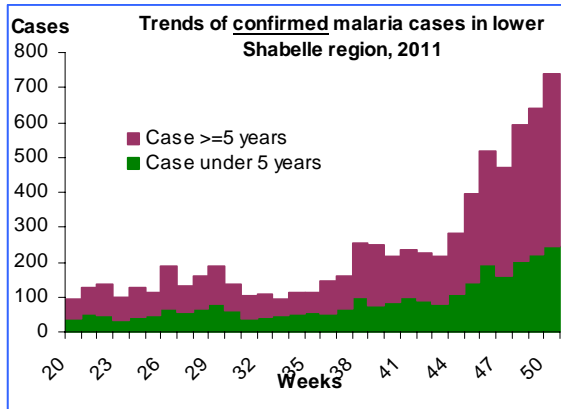
¹Week 1: 3-9 January 2011

²Epidemiological week 50: 12-18 December 2011

MALARIA (SOURCE: CSR SENTINEL SITES)

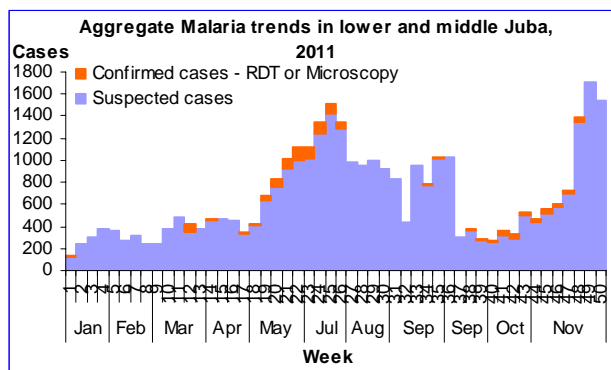
Lower Shabelle

- **835** suspected malaria cases were reported from 56 health facilities, of which 737 (88%) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. **285** (34%) of the cases were children under the age of five. There was a 12% increment in reported cases compared to week 49 (743 reported cases). See graph that indicates an increase in the cases of malaria in Lower Shabelle region.
- Access to the region is limited following the ban of most implementing partners from the area by local authorities.



Lower and Middle Jubba

- Alarming rates of suspected malaria being reported by 21 health facilities in Lower and Middle Jubba with 1545 suspected malaria cases (none were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy). 955 (62%) were women and girls, 462 (30%) were children under five years. The reasons for this increase are still being investigated, amid challenges of access and subsequent limited possibility to conduct monitoring activities.
- The current torrential rains observed in some of the districts with localized flooding will provide ample breeding sites for mosquitoes and increases the risk of malaria and other vector-borne diseases (such as dengue).



ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS (SOURCE: IDSR SENTINEL SITES)

Lower Shabelle

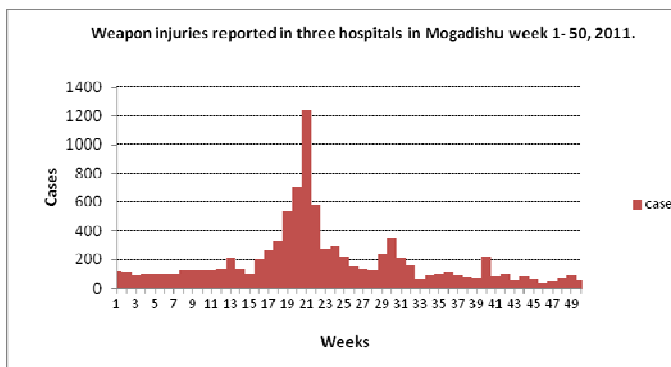
- **1885** cases of influenza-like illnesses were reported from 56 health facilities, of which 1135 (60%) were children under the age of five and 1026 (54%) are women and girls.

Lower and Middle Jubba

- **578** cases of influenza-like illnesses were reported from 21 health facilities, of which 428 (74%) were children under the age of five. Women and girls accounted for 353 (61%) of the reported cases.

CONFLICT RELATED INJURIES

- From **1-18 December 2011**, **158 casualties** from weapon-related injuries were treated in the 3 hospitals in Mogadishu. 14 cases (8.9%) are under the age of five. No Deaths were reported.
- Since **1 January - 18 December 2011**, **7799 casualties** from weapon-related injuries were treated at the three major hospitals in Mogadishu. 97 death above the age of five were reported.



HEALTH RESPONSE

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

- ★ **Relief International** in collaboration SOADO is supporting a mother and child health (MCH) centre in **Cabdicasii district**. During the reporting week, 325 outpatient consultations were registered at the facility including 178 children under the age of five (51% suffering from acute respiratory infections). 84 pregnant women were provided with antenatal care services. 12 health education sessions have been conducted at the clinic. At their 3 MCHs in **Galkaayo district (Mudug region)**, 521 patients received treatment including 312 children under the age of five. About 313 children were immunized against vaccine-preventable diseases. 139 pregnant women were provided antenatal care services including vaccinated against tetanus. About 33 facility-based deliveries were conducted. Health awareness campaigns were conducted in close collaboration with Ministry of Health in Puntland.
- ★ The **Somali Young Doctors Association (SOYDA)**, in collaboration with Intersos, OCHA, WHO, Mercy Malasia, Doctors Worldwide Turkey and Italian extends their health services through health centers and mobile clinics in **Lower Shabelle and Banadir region**. During the reporting week, 2625 consultations were reported in Lower Shabelle, including 865 under the age of five, 1461 female. In Banadir, 5481 consultations were reported including 1537 under the age of five, 3092 female. These facilities are targeting a population of more than 250 000 in both regions. The mobile clinics, that provide basic health services, mainly target IDPs.



DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

- ★ From 17-19 December 2011, about 13 disease surveillance staff in the field attended an orientation session on the revised surveillance system for 2012. The 3-day session that was held in Hargeisa was organized by **WHO** in collaboration with **CDC**. Subsequent orientation is planned for Mogadishu and Garowe.
- ★ 129 sentinel sites will be reporting on nine health events in Somalia.

MENTAL HEALTH

- ★ **GRT** is supporting the Hargeisa mental health ward in **W. Galbeed region** (Somaliland) and Bander Qassim mental health ward in **Bari region** (Puntland) including providing medical supplies at both facilities. See graph of cases reported during the month of November 2011.

