



*MhGAP – HIG training in Cox's Bazar between 15-17 September, 2018*



# World Health Organization

## Bangladesh

Weekly Situation Report # 44

Date of issue: 19 September 2018

Period covered: 12 – 18 September 2018

Location: Bangladesh

## Emergency type: Rohingya Refugee Crisis



**919 000**  
total Rohingya  
in Bangladesh



**706 364**  
new arrivals since  
25 Aug 2017



**2 903 664**  
total number of consultations  
reported in EWARS in 2018



**728 786**  
people are being  
monitored for diseases



**1.3 million**  
people targeted for health  
assistance

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- A Clinical Management of Mental, Neurological and Substance Use Conditions in Humanitarian Emergencies (mhGAP – HIG) training was organized in Cox's Bazar between 15-17 September, 2018 to strengthen the competencies of persons providing mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services.
- ARI is causing major burden of illness in Rohingya camps, particularly in children <5 years of age.

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

- According to the Needs and Population Monitoring (NPM) exercise, there are an estimated 919 000 Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar as of 22 July 2018. Of these, 706 364 are new arrivals since 25 August 2017.
- The recent report by Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) indicates that between 11 May and 18 September 2018, 51 529 people have been affected by the Monsoon rains. A total of 6 075 individuals have been displaced over the same period, while 46 people have been injured and one person reported dead in the camps.

### RESPONSE

#### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SUMMARY

- As of week 37, 146 health facilities have been registered as active Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS) reporting sites. Of those sites, 88 weekly reports (60 %) were received by Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>

September 2018. This resulted in a cumulative completeness of 77% for 2018. A total of 29 alerts (triggers) were reported in the EWARS system in week 37.

- Acute respiratory infections (ARI), unexplained fever (UF) and acute watery diarrhea (AWD) (14.9 %, 6.2 % and 5.6 %, respectively) were the three leading illnesses in the area for week 37. All these syndromes are being monitored by WHO Epidemiology.

### ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS (ARI)

- ARI is causing major burden of illness in Rohingya camps, particularly in children <5 years of age.
- There has been a slight decrease in ARI cases in the past few weeks.
- One RDT (rapid diagnostic test) positive case of influenza A and one influenza B has been detected from Leda (camp area). This parallels with Bangladesh influenza season. WHO supports further testing of cases.

### SUSPECTED MALARIA

- A slight increase in reported suspected malaria cases has been observed during the past few weeks, figure 1. It is possible that the increase in suspected malaria cases represent variety of syndromes with different etiologies, including vector-borne illnesses. Any suspected cases should be tested with malaria RDT and for other vector-borne diseases such as dengue if available. Simultaneously, proportion of unexplained fever and acute respiratory infections have been decreasing.
- One confirmed case of malaria was reported. Leda camp area reported one case of RDT positive dengue.

### DIPHTHERIA UPDATE

- The number of diphtheria cases continue to decrease in week 37, figure 2.

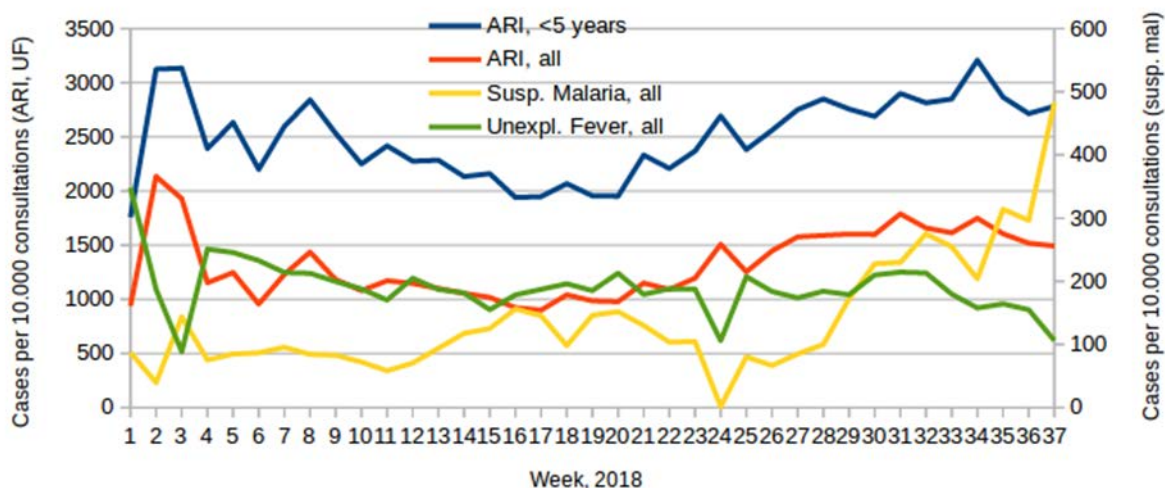


Figure2: Acute respiratory infections, suspected malaria and unexplained fever in 2018, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

- Three new case-patients (suspected, all PCR negative) were reported, of which one was from the host community. A total of 8.179 diphtheria case-patients have been reported. No new deaths were reported.

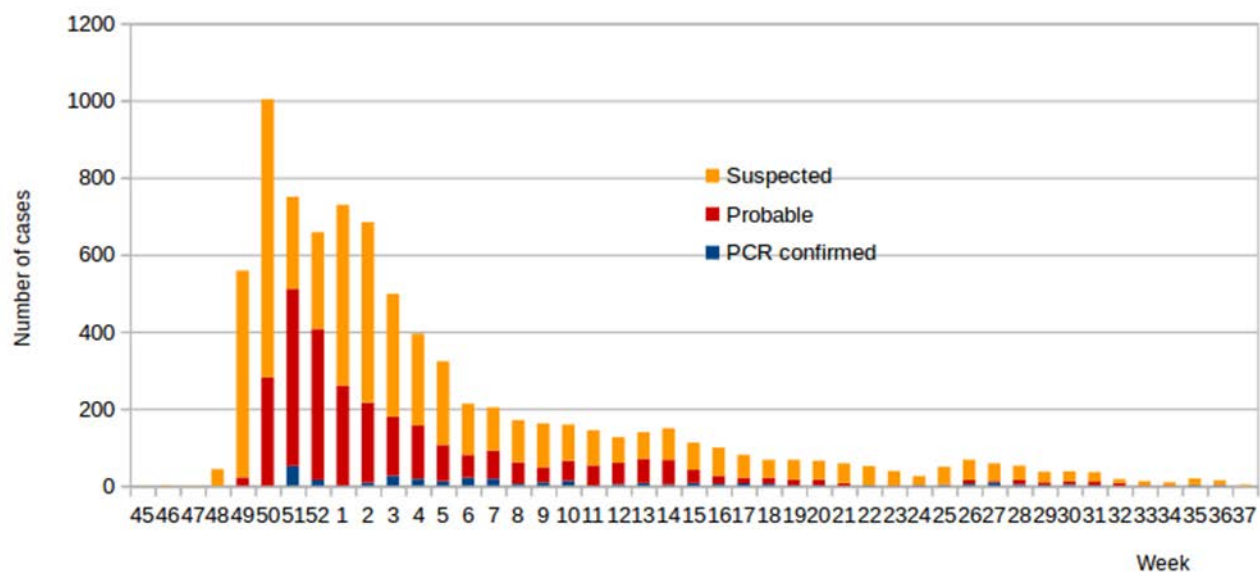


Figure2: Epidemic curve of diphtheria case-patients 2017-2018 in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

## HEALTH OPERATIONS

- An mhGAP – HIG training was organized in Cox's Bazar between September 15-17, 2018 to strengthen to strengthen the competencies of persons providing MHPSS services. The training was based on mhGAP-HIG and 4 priority MH conditions were selected for presentations; Acute stress /PTSD, Depression, Psychosis and Epilepsy.
- Training of Trainers (ToT) on Basic EPI from different agencies, adapted from National EPI guidelines has been launched on 18 September with 40 supervisors from different agencies participating. The 2-day training will be followed by training of vaccinators from the same agencies from 20-30 September. In total, 250 vaccinators will receive the training including 112 from the Ministry of Health.
- A total of 2 000 family and 66 community water filters have been distributed to 15 organizations running health facilities in the camps to distribute to pregnant women and monitor their installation, maintenance and safe keeping.

## COORDINATION

- The health sector has activated bi-weekly emergency preparedness meetings in anticipation of the upcoming cyclone season in October.

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