WHO/BASRAH

Communicable Diseases- Site Visit Report

Date: 03/07/2003
Governorate: Missan
I. Al Kala’at Saleh General Hospital
II. Al Kahlah Health Centre
III. Directorate of Health (DoH) Missan
IV. Al Zahrawy General Hospital
V. International Medical Corporation (IMC)

Summary of findings:

I. Al Kala’at Saleh General Hospital

1. Dr. Aly Karam Moussa, Director, stated that the communicable disease registration was stopped at 15/03/2003. This is making it difficult to validate the surveillance data which was reported from the hospital in the last few weeks.
2. There was no hepatitis Kits, so the diagnosis of Jaundice patient is done only clinically
3. The health district director is yet to be assigned after the previous one left.

II. Al Kahlah Health Centre:

1. No physician was assigned to the Health Centre.
2. A para-medical staff is handling the work at the health centre, which receive about 220 patients per day.
3. No Registration logbook was found for communicable diseases, so the validation of the surveillance system was not done.
4. The surveillance weekly report form reported 70 cases of suspected acute jaundice syndrome after reviewing the laboratory data, revealed that, only 3 cases were tested last month, and there were no clinical records for such patients.

III. Directorate of Health (DoH) Missan:

1. A meeting was held with Director General of Missan DoH, Dr. Zamel She’ a and the surveillance coordinators; Dr. Mohamed Abdel Wahab, Missan CDC director, and Dr. Hussin Reheem, Director, Missan First district. The meeting was concentrated on improving the surveillance system and validation of the surveillance data, and importance of monitoring and evaluation of the reporting sources on regular bases.
2. Reviewing of Missan Weekly morbidity records, revealed that there was 8 cases of measles reported from 1 hospital (Zahrawy General Hospital) and 1 health center (Al Masharah), the team decided to visit the Zahrawy hospital to validate the data.
3. Also the reviewing of the data showed that 2 hospitals reported 104 suspected cases of Leishmaniass between 1st of April and 31 of May. The cases were diagnosed clinically without laboratory confirmation. The Zahrawy hospital was one of the reporting 2 hospitals.
IV. Al Zahrawy General Hospital

1. Dr. Intezar Ibrahem El Atar, consultant Pediatrician, (Surveillance Focal Point), explained that there were no measles cases admitted to the hospital and the report was a mistake in coping the information from the logbooks.

2. Dr. Intezar declared that, the number of Leishmanias reported was validated and it might be due to the accumulation of cases before the crises and lack of drugs at that time. The team noticed that there is a shift in the age distribution, which tends to be much older (more than 5 years old). A list of all reported cases including the basic epidemiological data will be prepared by the Missan CDC director and it will be discussed in the next weekly meeting.

V. International Medical Corps (IMC):

A visit was done to IMC, to arrange for continuous support for the comprehensive surveillance system activities, through renting additional cars for the focal points covering the South Area, starting from 7th of June for 4 weeks activities.

A list of cars rented and used for surveillance activities was provided to IMC officials for the period of first 2 weeks and the remaining lists will be provided next week.