

Measles Case Study: Afghanistan Part I



Introduction

Although most IDPs have now returned home, there are still around 127,500 IDPs in four settlements in the Kandahar region. Most have been living there since 2002. SC/US along with another NGO, AMDA are responsible for delivering primary health care services to this population. Your field office reports two suspected cases of measles in the surveillance report for the previous month. You contact the field office and are told that routine EPI coverage in both the SCF and the AMDA camps is high (at least 90%). WFP has had problems with its pipeline for the last four months and has only been able to distribute vaccine only once during this time. You contact AMDA who reports that the number of children admitted to its supplementary feeding program has doubled in the last month. Last month the SCF field office reported an increase in cases of diarrhea. This was investigated by WHO and declared not to be cholera. In 2003, an outbreak of scurvy was reported in this area by MSF.

Tomorrow there will be an interagency meeting at which the need for a measles campaign in the camps will be discussed. One UN agency is expected to argue that it is not necessary since measles vaccination coverage is high.

Question I

Are you concerned about a measles outbreak in this situation? Why/why not? What actions will you ask your field office to take?

Part 2

It has been decided that a measles campaign should be conducted in the camps. UNICEF asks SC to coordinate the campaign in the camps.

Question 2

List all the activities that you will undertake between now and when the campaign results have been finalized. (For example, your first activity will probably be micro planning).

Question 3

- (3) Complete the attached partial supply table using the following assumptions:
- A. The target age group is 6 months to 15 years, 45% of the total population
 - B. In big camps (>40,000) each team can vaccinate an average of 300 children per day. In small camps (<40,000) each team can vaccinate 150 children per day
 - C. One supervisor can supervise three teams (on average)
 - D. Each team will get two vaccine carriers filled with frozen ice packs
 - E. Five teams will share one large cold box with 50 ice packs (to store vaccine and frozen ice packs.
 - F. Each camp will receive one ice pack freezer and a generator
 - G. To calculate vaccine needs use a loss factor of 1.17 and a reserve of 25%
 - H. The campaign will last for seven days
 - I. One syringe for dilution for each vial
 - J. 1 safety box per 100 syringes

Question 4

(4) To what vulnerable groups might you pay special attention?

Question 5

What organizations, individuals, and groups might you involve in campaign planning?

Question 6

What suggestions do you have for community mobilization?

Question 7

What personnel have you not considered in the table above? (Hint: review list from Q4).

Question 8

(8) What supplies have you not considered in the table above? (Hint: review list from Q4).

Question 9

The coverage figure of 90% appears to be true. Vaccine efficacy is estimated at 90%, and the proportion of children aged six months – five years is estimated to be 18%. Assuming no circulation of wild virus, estimate the total number of susceptible children just among under fives.

Question 10

If the measles outbreak spreads before vaccination activities start and the case fatality ratio is 5%, how many children under five will die? In this outbreak situation, assume susceptible children will probable get measles.

Measles Case Study: Afghanistan Sample Supply Table for Question 3



Camp	Total pop	Target pop	Teams	Super	Doses (vials)	AD syringes	Syringes Dilution	Safety boxes	Cold boxes	Vaccine carriers	Ice packs	Vit A 100,000 IU	Vit A 200,000 IU	Cars	Ice pack freezers	Gen
Mukjar	60,500															
Omar	42,000															
Logar	15,000															
Kapisa	10,000															
Total	127,500															