

Integrated Disease Surveillance & Response (IDSR) Report

Center of Disease Control

National Institute of Health, Islamabad

PAKISTAN

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Public Health Bulletin Pakistan

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Overview

Public Health Bulletin - Pakistan, Week 51, 2025

IDSR Reports

Ongoing Events

The Public Health Bulletin (PHB) provides timely, reliable, and actionable health information to the public and professionals. It disseminates key IDSR data, outbreak reports, and seasonal trends, along with actionable public health recommendations. Its content is carefully curated for relevance to Pakistan's priorities, excluding misinformation. The PHB also proactively addresses health misinformation on social media and aims to be a trusted resource for informed public health decision-making.

This Weeks Highlights include;

- *Closing the Surveillance Gap: Pakistan's National Strategy to Prevent & Detect Healthcare – Associated Infections.*
- *Dengue Outbreak Investigation Report, Bagh District, Azad Jammu & Kashmir (July–August 2025).*
- *Knowledge hub on Understanding Dengue: A Public Health Priority*

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*

Overview

Note: All reported cases in this report are suspected cases

- During Week 51, the most frequently reported cases were of Malaria, followed by Acute Diarrhea (Non-Cholera), ILI, ALRI <5 years, TB, Dog Bite, B. Diarrhea, VH (B, C & D), SARI, Typhoid and Measles.
- Twenty-three cases of AFP reported from KP, eleven from Sindh, one from GB and one from AJK.
- Eight suspected cases of HIV/ AIDS reported from Sindh and seven from KP.
- Among VPDs, there is an increase in number of cases of Measles, Pertussis, Chickenpox, Diphtheria, AFP and NT this week.
- Among Respiratory diseases, there is an increase in number of cases of SARI this week.
- Among Water/food-borne diseases, there is decrease in the cases of AD (Non- Cholera) and B.Diarrhea this week.
- Among Vector-borne diseases, there is decrease in number of cases of Malaria this week.
- Among STDs, there is a decline in number of cases of HIV/AIDs this week.
- Among Zoonotic/Other diseases, there is an increase in number of cases of dog bite this week.
- Field investigation is required for verification of the alerts and for prevention and control of the outbreaks.

IDSР compliance attributes

- The national compliance rate for IDSР reporting in 158 implemented districts is 77%
- Sindh is the top reporting regions with a compliance rate of 96%, followed by AJK 86%, GB 78% and KPK 75%.
- The lowest compliance rate was observed in Balochistan 45% and ICT 26%.

Region	Expected Reports	Received Reports	Compliance (%)
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	2229	1672	75
Azad Jammu Kashmir	469	401	86
Islamabad Capital Territory	38	10	26
Balochistan	1308	595	45
Gilgit Baltistan	417	327	78
Sindh	2111	2031	96
National	6572	5036	77

Public Health Actions

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

Dengue

- **Strengthen Surveillance and Case Notification:** Enhance dengue reporting through the IDSR/IDSRS system, integrating human health and entomological data for early outbreak detection in high-risk areas.
- **Expand Laboratory Confirmation:** Strengthen laboratory capacity for dengue diagnosis using NS1 antigen and IgM/IgG testing to support timely case confirmation and outbreak response.
- **Enhance Integrated Vector Management:** Implement coordinated vector control through larval source reduction, larviciding, fogging, and environmental management in collaboration with municipal and environmental sectors.
- **Strengthen Outbreak Preparedness and Response:** Activate rapid response teams for case investigation, active case finding, entomological surveillance, and targeted vector control.
- **Raise Public Awareness:** Conduct risk communication to promote source reduction, personal protective measures, and early healthcare seeking.

Malaria

- **Strengthen Surveillance and Case Detection:** Enhance malaria surveillance through the IDSR/IDSRS system with timely reporting from all health facilities, particularly in endemic and border areas.
- **Expand Laboratory Diagnosis:** Strengthen access to parasitological confirmation through rapid diagnostic tests and microscopy for early and accurate diagnosis.
- **Improve Case Management:** Ensure availability of antimalarial medicines and adherence to national treatment guidelines to reduce transmission and mortality.
- **Enhance Vector Control Measures:** Scale up long-lasting insecticidal nets, indoor residual spraying, and environmental management through coordinated human, animal, and environmental health actions.
- **Raise Community Awareness:** Promote health education on malaria symptoms, consistent bed-net use, and early treatment seeking behavior.

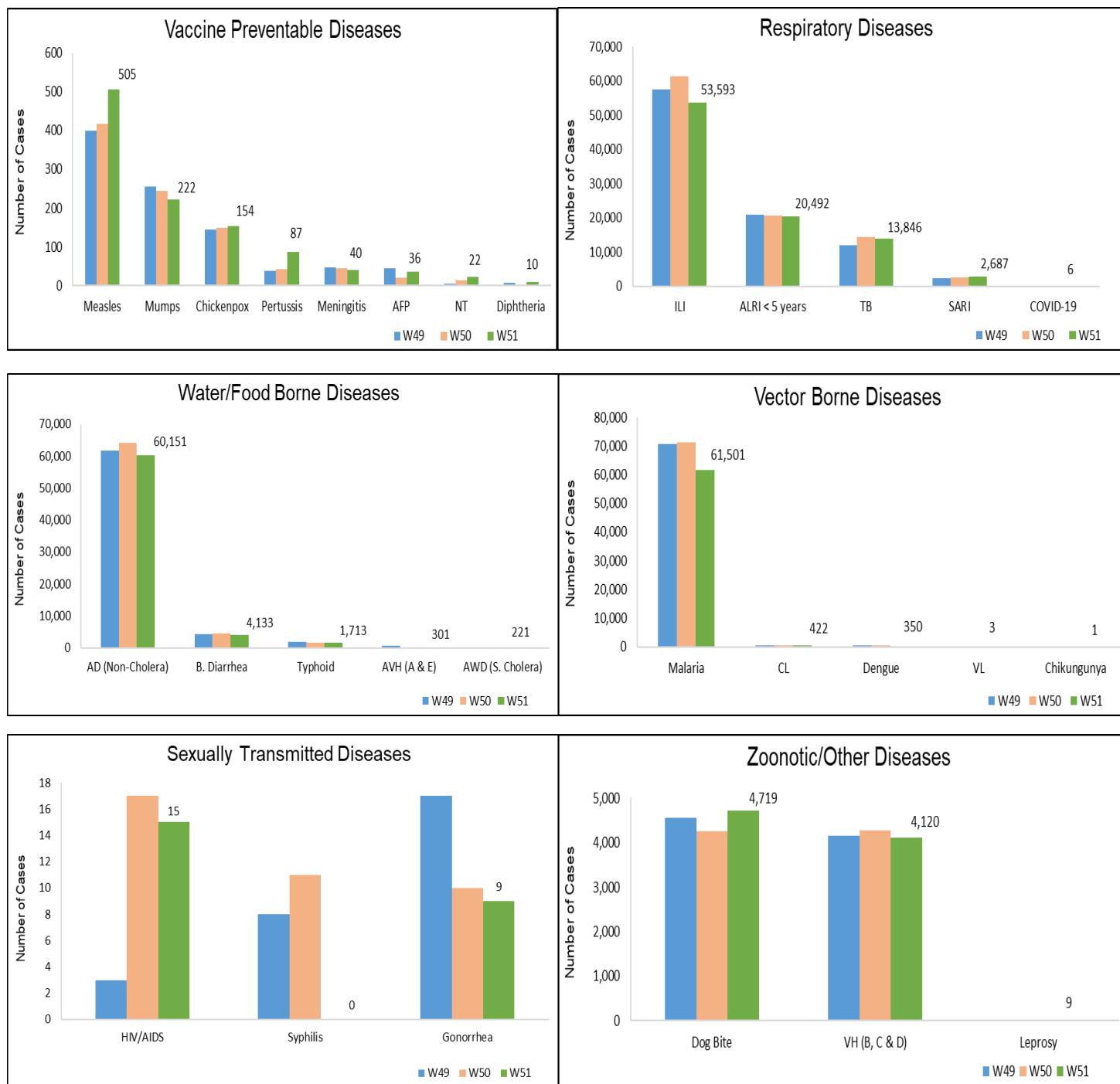


Pakistan

Table 1: Province/Area wise distribution of most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 51, Pakistan.

Diseases	AJK	Balochistan	GB	ICT	KP	Punjab	Sindh	Total
Malaria	0	2,454	1	0	3,098	NR	55,948	61,501
AD (Non-Cholera)	1,320	3,806	488	79	18,439	NR	36,019	60,151
ILI	3,307	4,982	472	399	6,137	NR	38,296	53,593
ALRI < 5 years	1,765	1,878	1,110	15	1,625	NR	14,099	20,492
TB	101	23	89	3	275	NR	13,355	13,846
Dog Bite	118	201	4	0	714	NR	3,682	4,719
B. Diarrhea	31	841	49	0	551	NR	2,661	4,133
VH (B, C & D)	14	39	7	0	122	NR	3,938	4,120
SARI	254	955	128	0	824	NR	526	2,687
Typhoid	15	267	72	0	609	NR	750	1,713
Measles	16	25	6	1	408	NR	49	505
CL	0	41	0	0	379	NR	2	422
Dengue	0	5	0	0	20	NR	325	350
AVH (A & E)	19	0	0	0	109	NR	173	301
Mumps	7	52	5	0	112	NR	46	222
AWD (S. Cholera)	6	190	2	0	19	NR	4	221
Chickenpox/ Varicella	4	1	24	3	97	NR	25	154
Pertussis	0	30	4	0	50	NR	3	87
Meningitis	3	0	1	0	13	NR	23	40
AFP	1	0	1	0	23	NR	11	36
NT	0	0	0	0	22	NR	0	22
HIV/AIDS	0	0	0	0	7	NR	8	15
Diphtheria (Probable)	0	1	0	0	9	NR	0	10
Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	NR	10	10
Gonorrhea	0	5	0	0	1	NR	3	9
Leprosy	0	3	0	0	0	NR	6	9
COVID-19	0	0	0	0	6	NR	0	6
VL	0	0	0	0	3	NR	0	3
Chikungunya	0	0	0	0	0	NR	1	1

Figure 1: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 51, Pakistan.



Sindh

- Malaria cases were maximum followed by ILI, AD (Non-Cholera), ALRI<5 Years, TB, VH (B, C, D), Dog Bite, B. Diarrhea, Typhoid and SARI.
- Malaria cases are mostly from Khairpur, Dadu and Larkana whereas ILI cases are from Khairpur, Dadu and Sanghar.
- Eleven cases of AFP reported from Sindh. They are suspected cases and need field verification.
- There is a decline in number of cases of Measles, Mumps, Meningitis, ILI, ALRI<5 Years, TB, Malaria, AD (Non-Cholera), TB, VH (B, C & D) and HIV/ AIDS while an increase in number of cases of Chicken pox, AFP, Pertussis, SARI and dog bite this week.

Table 2: District wise distribution of most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 51, Sindh

Districts	Malaria	ILI	AD (Non-Cholera)	ALRI < 5 years	TB	VH (B, C & D)	Dog Bite	B. Diarrhea	Typhoid	SARI
Badin	2,563	2,763	2,053	695	843	282	184	146	41	0
Dadu	5,183	1,088	2,107	1,493	568	100	378	329	130	0
Ghotki	2,231	52	759	1,003	556	352	225	93	0	0
Hyderabad	842	2,423	2,098	199	397	129	81	62	1	2
Jacobabad	1,072	1,246	635	380	240	175	191	83	52	2
Jamshoro	2,716	156	1,406	541	628	140	120	73	37	3
Kamber	2,429	0	1,492	337	877	73	246	114	18	0
Karachi Central	23	2,150	1,595	18	200	23	36	1	72	0
Karachi East	23	0	173	16	7	0	1	4	0	0
Karachi Keamari	5	239	436	14	6	0	0	1	0	0
Karachi Korangi	107	28	277	1	49	15	0	4	2	0
Karachi Malir	29	2,566	678	134	81	2	29	26	7	0
Karachi South	16	0	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Karachi West	367	1,402	850	201	68	15	65	24	22	1
Kashmore	2,193	789	244	151	142	18	106	38	1	0
Khairpur	5,583	8,470	2,819	1,756	1,244	214	285	307	165	118
Larkana	3,955	0	1,472	399	796	21	48	293	0	0
Matiari	2,650	25	1,350	259	787	133	106	51	2	0
Mirpurkhas	2,232	5,598	2,225	730	875	32	200	70	5	20
Naushero										
Feroze	1,008	602	1,291	543	179	54	193	115	15	2
Sanghar	4,072	149	1,680	766	1,394	1,282	274	76	38	0
Shaheed										
Benazirabad	2,462	4	1,346	385	478	101	175	85	82	0
Shikarpur	2,484	12	1,029	182	307	214	256	136	2	8
Sujawal	415	0	701	510	77	37	78	31	9	342
Sukkur	2,338	2,372	996	295	453	79	154	119	3	0
Tando Allahyar	1,520	1,589	756	242	465	257	41	56	7	0
Tando Muhammad Khan	792	110	666	301	732	56	100	98	0	0
Tharparkar	3,076	2,497	2,092	1,186	566	21	2	129	15	28
Thatta	1,397	1,957	1,337	784	58	100	108	20	1	0
Umerkot	2,165	9	1,394	578	282	13	0	77	23	0
Total	55,948	38,296	36,019	14,099	13,355	3,938	3,682	2,661	750	526



Figure 2: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 51 Sindh

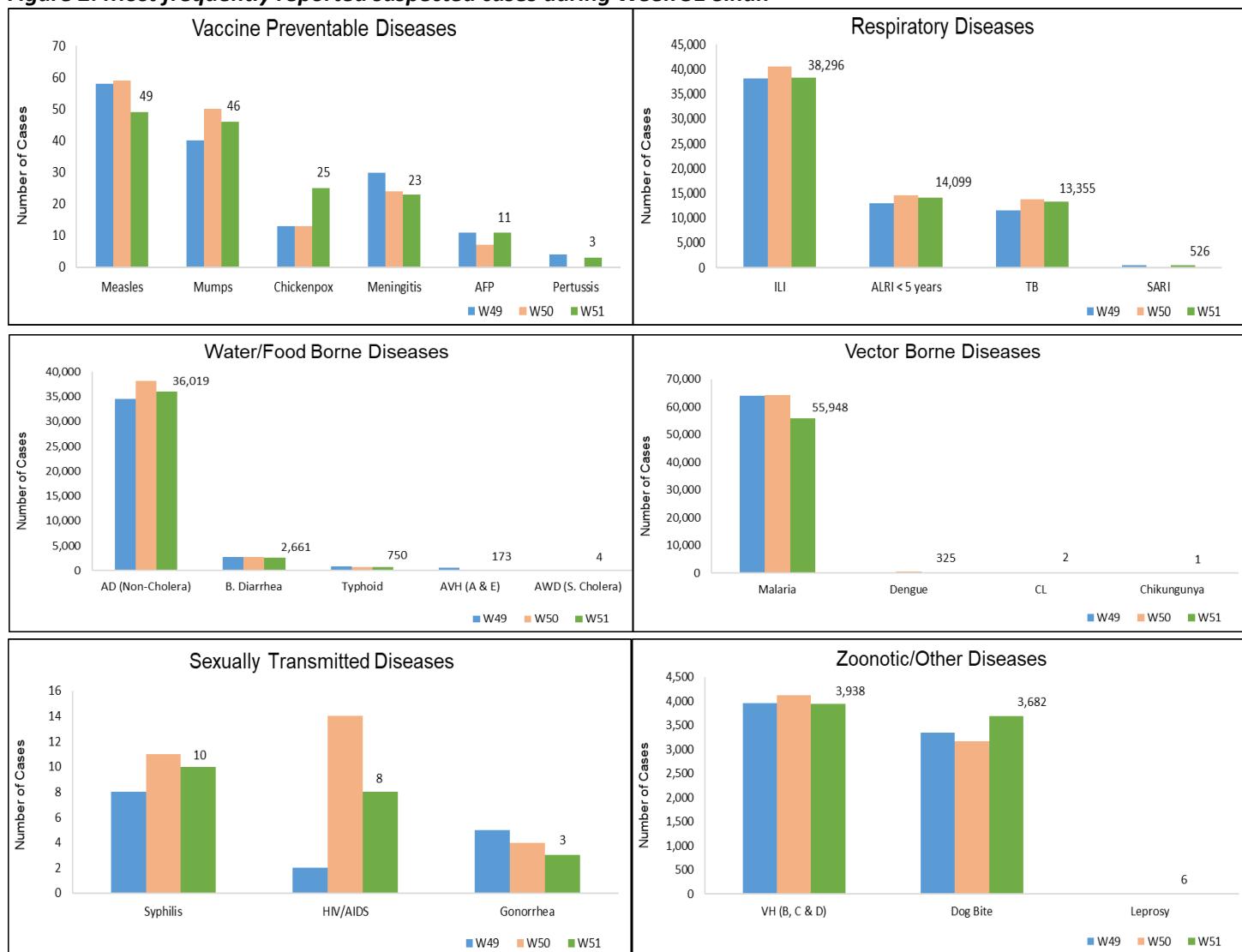
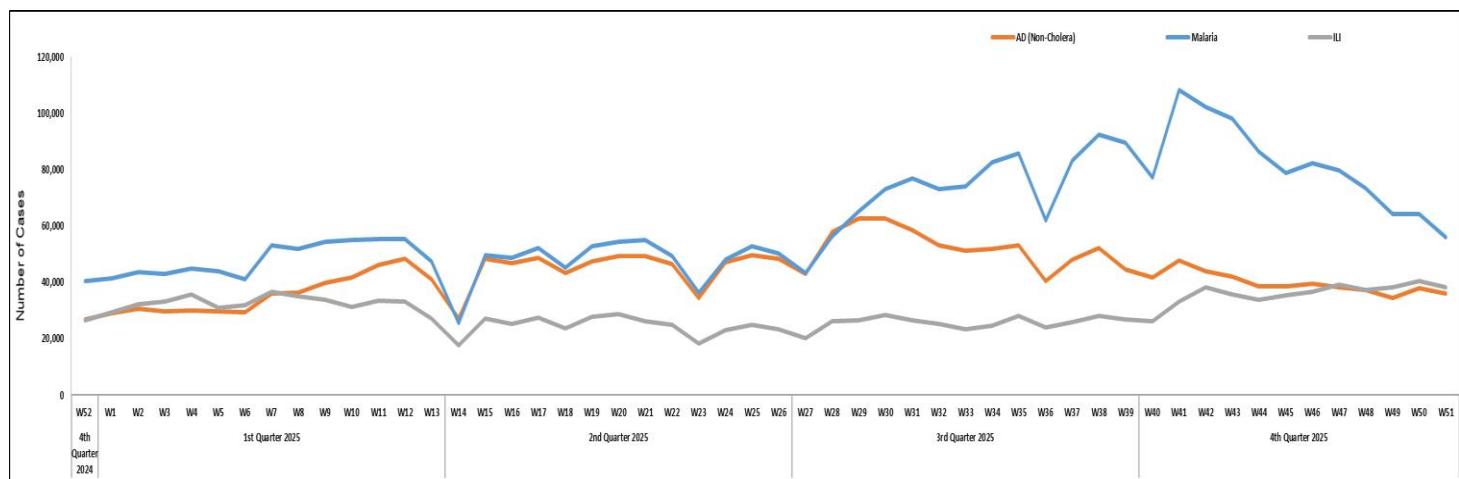


Figure 3: Week wise reported suspected cases of Malaria, AD (Non-Cholera) & ILI, Sindh



Balochistan

- ILI, AD (Non-Cholera), Malaria, ALRI < 5 years, SARI, B. Diarrhea, Typhoid, Dog Bite, AWD (S. Cholera) and Mumps cases were the most frequently reported diseases from Balochistan province.
- ILI cases are mostly reported from Sibbi, Kharan and Kachhi (Bolan) while AD (Non-Cholera) cases are mostly reported from Sibi, Usta Muhammad and Kachhi (Bolan).
- Measles, Pertussis, Diphtheria, AWD (S. Cholera) and Leprosy showed an increase in the number of cases. At the same time, a decline has been observed in the number of cases of Mumps, Chicken pox, ILI, ALRI < 5 years and TB, AD (Non-Cholera), B. Diarrhea, Malaria, Cutaneous leishmaniasis (CL), Dog Bite, VH (B, C & D) and Gonorrhea.

Table 3: District wise distribution of most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 51, Balochistan.

Districts	ILI	AD (Non-Cholera)	Malaria	ALRI < 5 years	SARI	B. Diarrhea	Typhoid	Dog Bite	AWD (S. Cholera)	Mumps
Awaran	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Barkhan	55	77	35	31	21	15	27	3	0	7
Chagai	324	114	39	0	0	30	4	0	0	1
Chaman	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Dera Bugti	0	12	12	50	0	0	6	0	0	0
Duki	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Gwadar	24	16	12	1	0	11	4	3	4	1
Harnai	0	90	23	94	0	34	0	0	0	0
Hub	152	137	120	17	2	22	0	0	0	0
Jaffarabad	183	217	284	7	6	46	4	1	0	7
Jhal Magsi	142	101	164	27	5	0	0	0	0	0
Kachhi (Bolan)	637	366	357	3	96	293	0	5	153	0
Kalat	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
Kech (Turbat)	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Kharan	687	171	15	0	42	44	13	0	0	0
Khuzdar	215	111	39	3	14	18	32	0	1	0
Killa Abdullah	295	139	6	14	102	18	19	8	16	6
Killa Saifullah	0	206	156	333	108	67	34	2	1	0
Kohlu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Lasbella	93	314	304	185	13	17	6	21	1	1
Loralai	612	189	15	90	114	41	18	0	0	1
Mastung	199	87	25	84	27	9	6	0	0	2
MusaKhel	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Naseerabad	33	310	242	89	8	24	33	118	1	5
Nushki	28	10	0	0	80	6	0	0	0	0
Panjgur	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Pishin	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Quetta	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Sherani	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Sibi	939	459	369	342	259	38	43	0	13	20
Sohbat pur	0	176	105	142	12	41	10	8	0	0
Surab	51	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Usta										
Muhammad	263	458	126	318	21	58	3	32	0	0
Washuk	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Zhob	47	27	4	43	22	1	2	0	0	0
Ziarat	3	3	0	4	3	8	1	0	0	1
Total	4,982	3,806	2,454	1,878	955	841	267	201	190	52



Figure 4: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 51, Balochistan

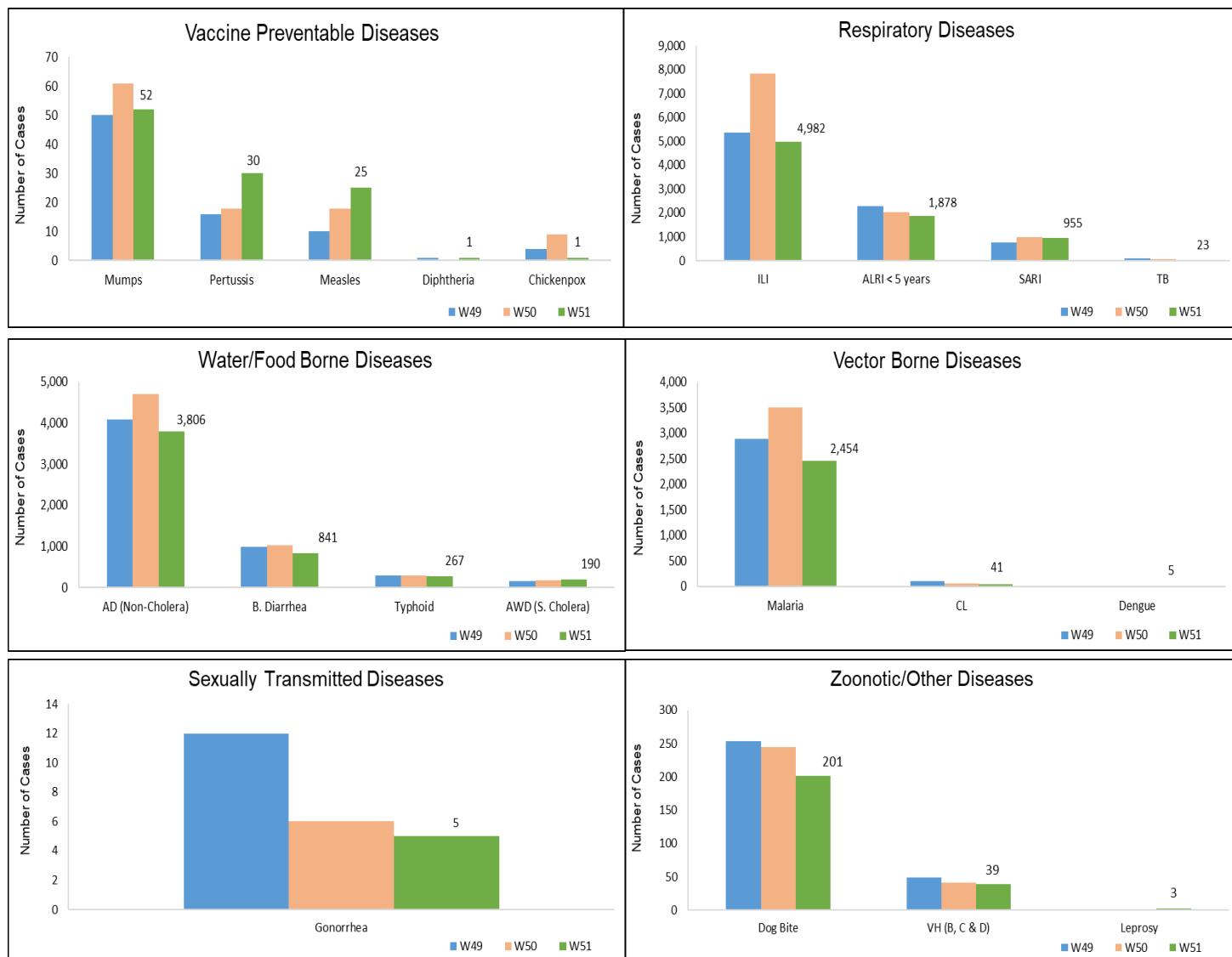
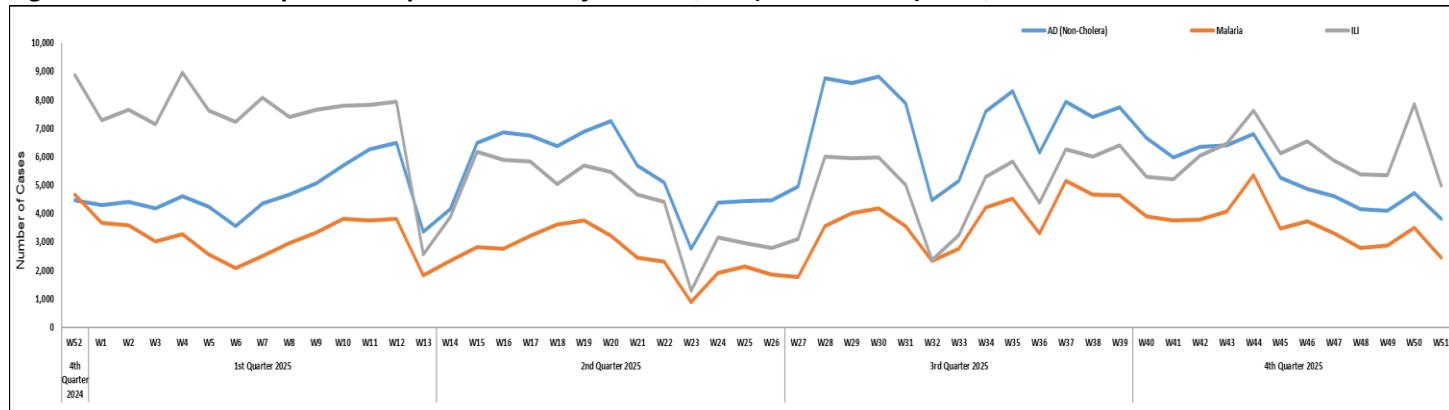


Figure 5: Week wise reported suspected cases of Malaria, AD (Non-Cholera) & ILI, Balochistan



- Cases of AD (Non-Cholera) were maximum followed by ILI, Malaria, ALRI<5 Years, SARI, Dog Bite, Typhoid, B. Diarrhea, Measles and CL.
- Measles, Chicken pox, Pertussis, AFP, NT, Meningitis, Diphtheria, ALRI < 5 years and VH (B, C & D) showed an increase in number while Mumps, ILI, SARI, AD (Non-Cholera), B. Diarrhea, Malaria, Dengue and Dog Bite showed a decline in number this week.
- Twenty-three cases of AFP reported from KP. All are suspected cases and need field verification.
- Seven cases of HIV/AIDS reported from KP. Field investigation is required.

Table 4: District wise distribution of most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 51, KP.

Districts	AD (Non-Cholera)	ILI	Malaria	ALRI < 5 years	SARI	Dog Bite	Typhoid	B. Diarrhea	Measles	CL
Abbottabad	496	84	0	56	7	68	26	3	14	1
Bajaur	418	3	104	13	92	100	6	28	15	9
Bannu	622	4	886	12	0	1	85	5	35	0
Battagram	249	765	28	8	NR	4	1	2	14	NR
Buner	112	0	86	0	0	0	10	0	0	0
Charsadda	1,166	1,797	212	363	3	15	52	91	30	0
Chitral Lower	311	35	4	17	21	10	4	13	1	7
Chitral Upper	83	20	1	9	8	3	12	4	1	1
D.I. Khan	1,576	0	294	27	0	15	0	19	21	1
Dir Lower	950	1	59	6	0	46	26	60	21	1
Dir Upper	748	83	5	128	0	30	11	10	18	1
Hangu	206	10	61	0	0	17	3	1	0	41
Haripur	647	828	0	76	42	6	41	10	3	0
Karak	293	16	126	59	0	13	7	13	50	137
Khyber	365	0	285	133	0	42	50	88	0	75
Kohat	311	3	33	11	0	18	6	7	1	19
Kohistan Lower	62	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	0
Kohistan Upper	117	0	2	1	0	1	0	8	1	0
Kolai Palas	79	0	0	4	0	0	6	3	0	0
L & C Kurram	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0
Lakki Marwat	359	0	245	17	0	12	0	1	0	0
Malakand	529	233	19	37	49	0	0	0	12	6
Mansehra	402	291	0	14	75	0	71	4	0	0
Mardan	601	91	19	155	1	26	19	13	10	0
Mohmand	57	149	82	2	197	7	2	7	4	39
North Waziristan	89	4	80	32	27	0	43	18	24	10
Nowshera	1,127	36	79	18	12	3	2	6	16	10
Orakzai	88	7	6	0	0	0	0	6	0	0
Peshawar	2,845	430	23	173	68	3	17	61	53	0
Shangla	618	0	93	19	0	38	17	3	7	0
South Waziristan (Lower)	60	281	19	64	59	13	6	2	13	10
SWU	26	1	13	13	34	0	0	0	0	2
Swabi	709	503	30	66	102	48	15	3	19	0
Swat	1,455	253	26	70	0	149	62	33	22	0
Tank	430	66	149	8	0	3	0	3	0	0
Tor Ghar	67	16	21	11	0	10	2	3	0	9
Upper Kurram	159	123	8	3	27	11	7	13	1	0
Total	18,439	6,137	3,098	1,625	824	714	609	551	408	379



Figure 6: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 51, KP.

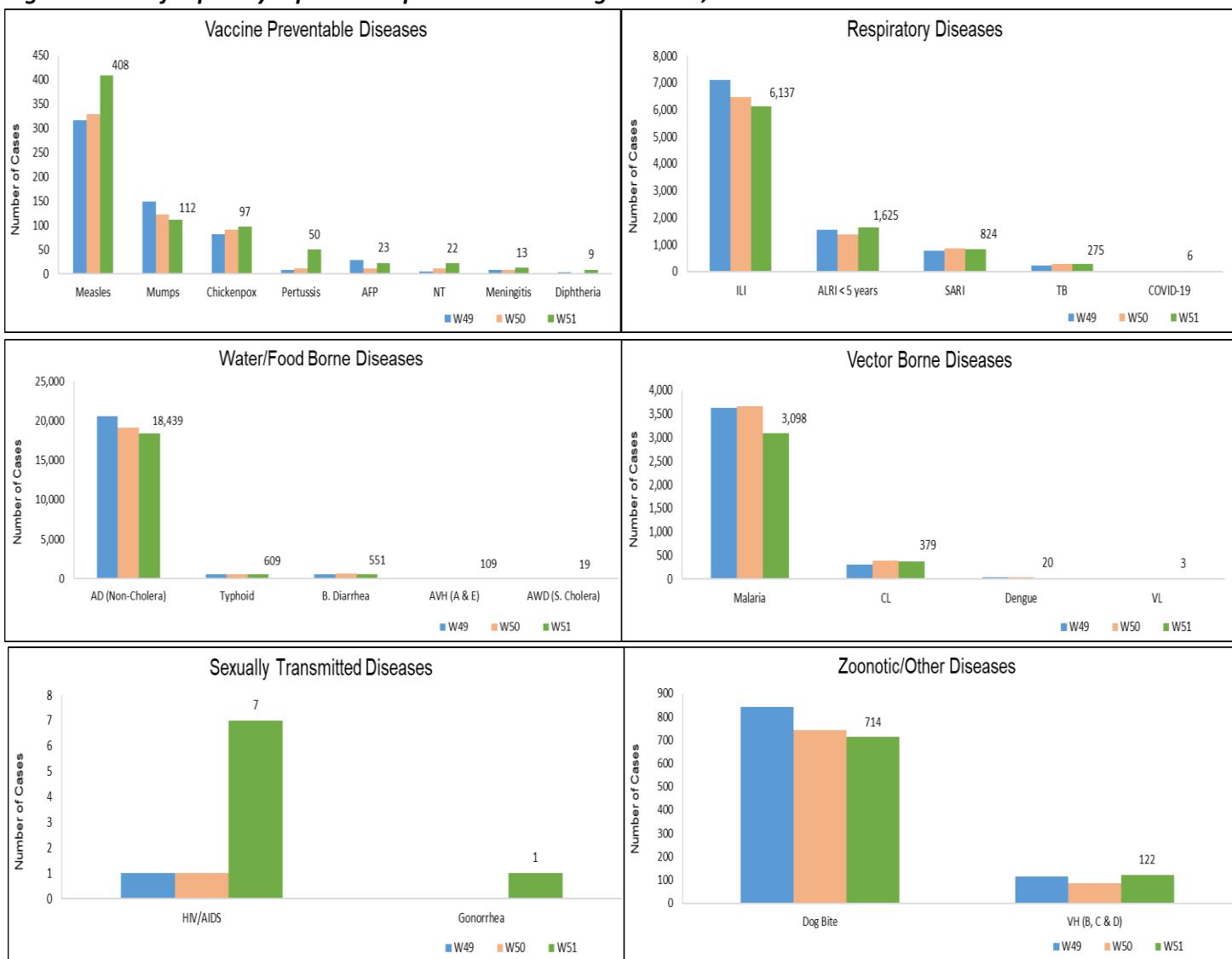
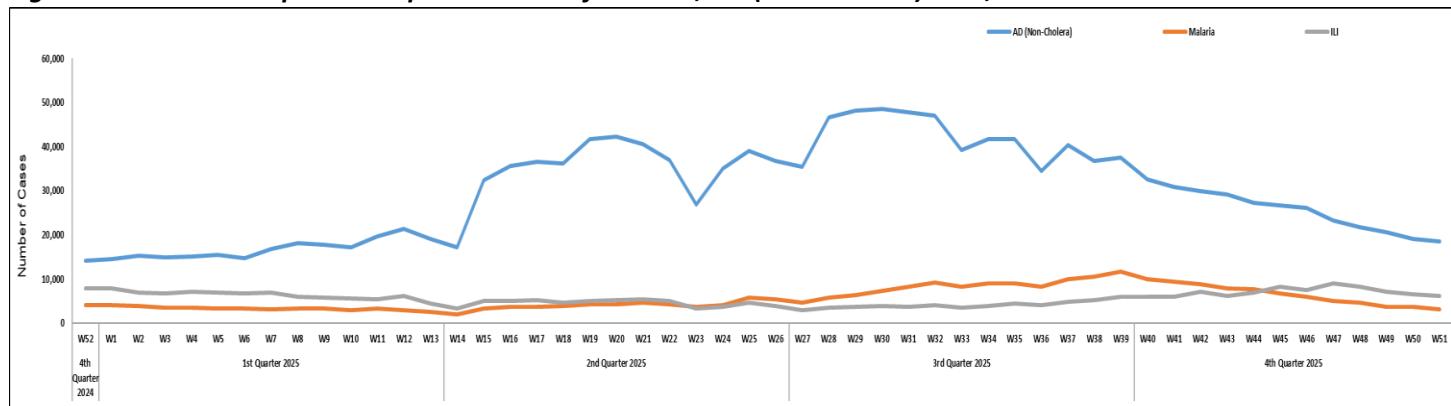


Figure 7: Week wise reported suspected cases of Malaria, AD (Non-Cholera) & ILI, KP



ICT: The most frequently reported cases from Islamabad were ILI followed by AD (Non-Cholera) and ALRI<5 and Chicken pox .AD (Non-cholera) and ILI cases showed a decline in number this week.

AJK: ILI cases were maximum followed by ALRI < 5 years, AD (Non-Cholera), SARI, Dog bite, TB, B. Diarrhea, AVH (A&E), Measles, Typhoid, VH (B, C & D), Mumps, AWD (S. Cholera), Chicken pox, Meningitis and AFP cases. An increase in number of suspected cases was observed for Measles, ALRI < 5 years, B. Diarrhea and Dog Bite while a decline in cases of Mumps, Chicken pox, Meningitis, ILI, SARI and TB this week.

GB: ALRI < 5 Years cases were the most frequently reported diseases followed by AD (Non-Cholera), ILI, SARI, TB, Typhoid, B. Diarrhea, Chickenpox/Varicella, VH (B, C & D), Measles, Mumps and Pertussis cases. A decline is observed in number of cases of ILI, ALRI < 5 Years, AD (Non-Cholera), SARI and TB this week.

Figure 8: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 51, AJK.

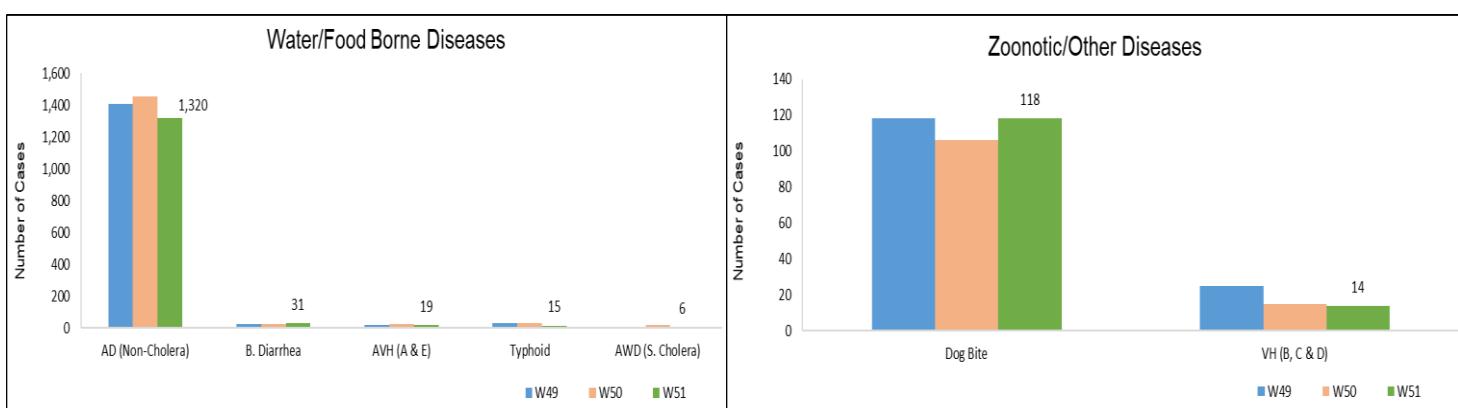
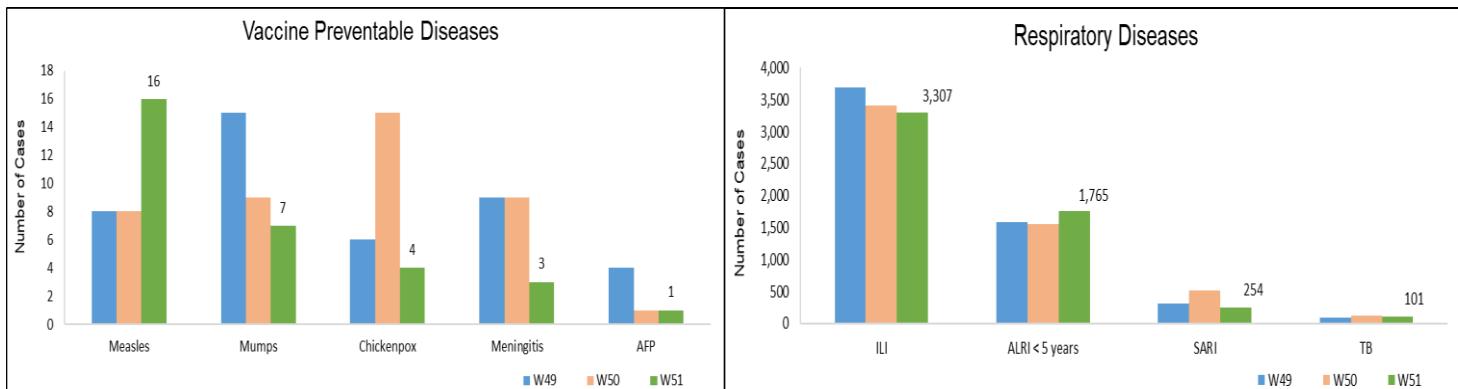


Figure 9: Week wise reported suspected cases of ILI and ALRI < 5 years, AJK

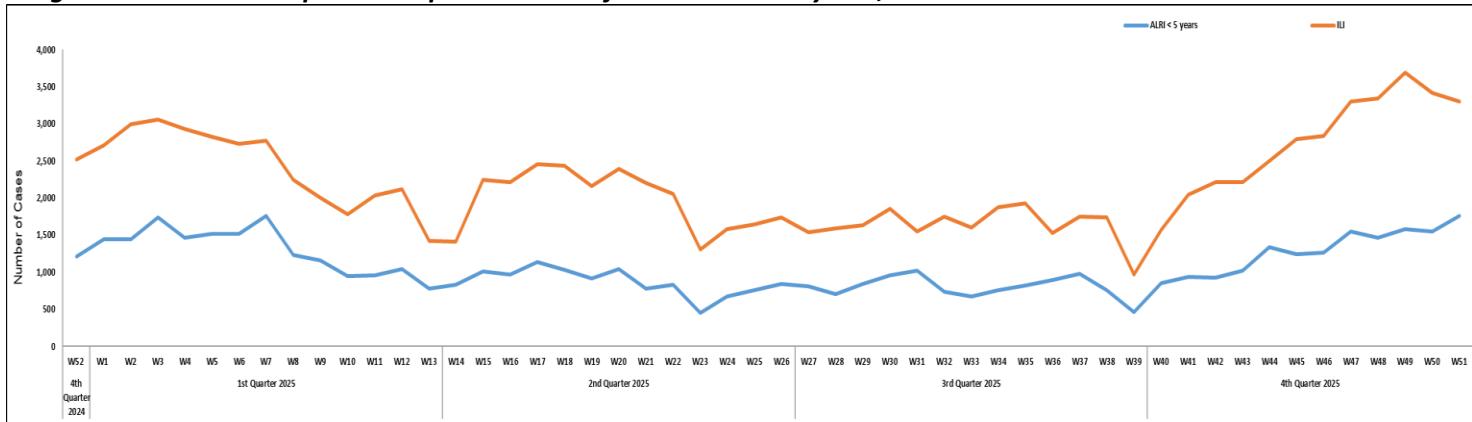


Figure 10: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 51, ICT.



Figure 11: Week wise reported suspected cases of ILI, ICT.

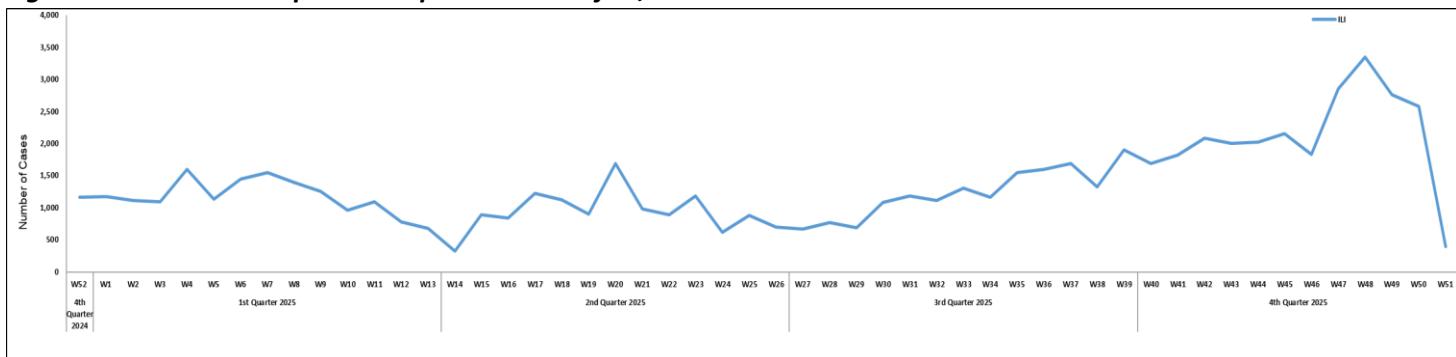


Figure 12: Most frequently reported suspected cases during Week 51, GB.

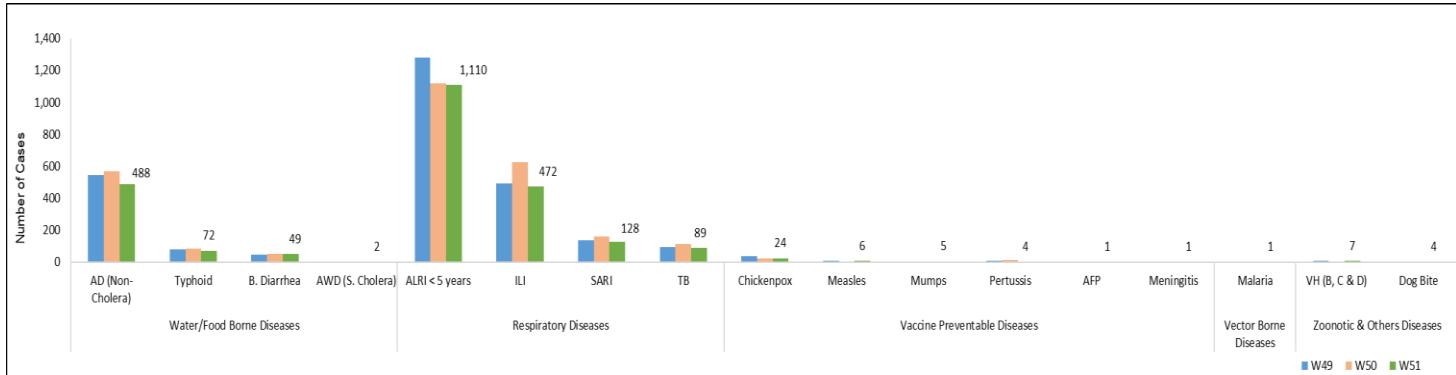


Figure 13: Week wise reported suspected cases of ALRI < 5 years, GB.

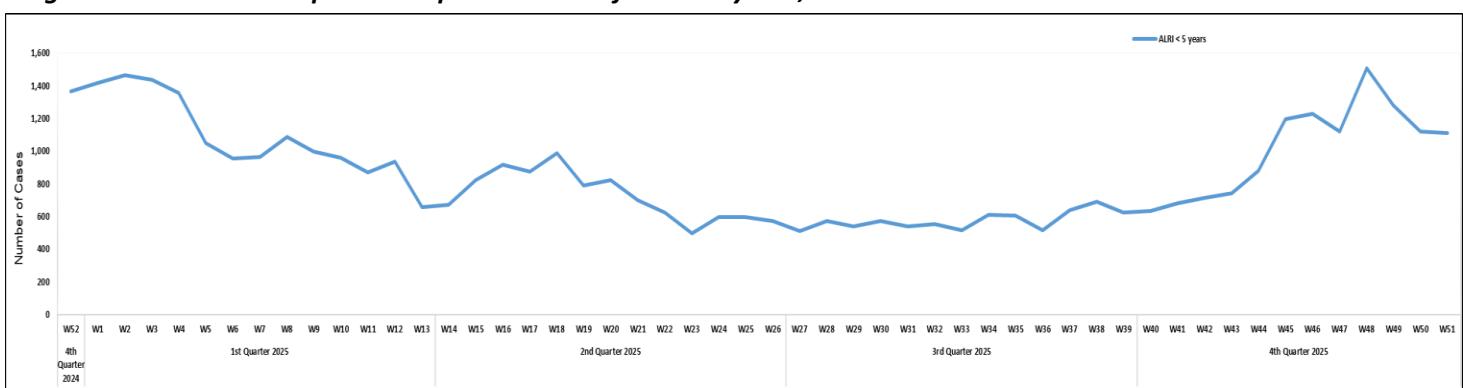


Table 5: Public Health Laboratories confirmed cases of IDSR Priority Diseases during Epi Week 51

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)	70	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stool culture & Sensitivity	295	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	12881	397	1237	139	130	21	-	-	105	0	-	-	2	0
CCHF	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dengue	4483	379	2	0	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0
VH (B)	16893	604	868	97	63	0	-	-	1148	11	-	-	249	3
VH (C)	17429	1587	835	48	63	0	-	-	1201	5	-	-	249	9
VH (D)	154	34	48	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
VH (A)	53	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
VH (E)	92	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Covid-19	49	1	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TB	1105	101	181	19	24	6	-	-	85	0	-	-	79	9
HIV/ AIDS	4116	34	553	2	17	0	-	-	237	0	-	-	253	0
Syphilis	1321	26	63	2	6	0	-	-	102	0	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	2599	37	147	26	-	-	-	-	117	10	-	-	1	0
Diphtheria	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ILI	121	21	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia (ALRI)	290	87	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis	41	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	150	69	53	34	213	114	19	13	1	0	328	66	18	8
Rubella (CRS)	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leishmaniasis (cutaneous)	-	-	32	10	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chikungunya	10	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gonorrhea	102	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leishmaniasis (Visceral)	-	-	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SARI	103	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Covid-19	ILI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	SARI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Influenza	ILI	4	1	-	-	-	-	77	15	5	0	43	8	-
	SARI	10	2	-	-	87	2	263	47	-	-	152	20	-
Influenza	ILI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	SARI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RSV	ILI	-	-	-	-	-	-	77	5	-	-	-	-	-
	SARI	-	-	-	-	87	22	263	98	-	-	-	-	-

IDSReports Compliance

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

Table 6: Compliance of IDSR reporting districts Week 51, Pakistan.

Provinces/Regions	Districts	Total Number of Reporting Sites	Number of Reported Sites for current week	Compliance Rate (%)
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Abbottabad	111	103	93%
	Bannu	238	133	56%
	Battagram	59	36	61%
	Buner	34	16	47%
	Bajaur	44	39	89%
	Charsadda	59	57	97%
	Chitral Upper	34	30	88%
	Chitral Lower	35	35	100%
	D.I. Khan	114	113	99%
	Dir Lower	74	61	82%
	Dir Upper	37	35	95%
	Hangu	22	18	82%
	Haripur	72	70	97%
	Karak	36	36	100%
	Khyber	53	39	74%
	Kohat	61	61	100%
	Kohistan Lower	11	8	73%
	Kohistan Upper	20	10	50%
	Kolai Palas	10	10	100%
	Lakki Marwat	70	68	97%
	Lower & Central Kurram	42	4	10%
	Upper Kurram	41	30	73%
	Malakand	42	25	60%
	Mansehra	133	66	50%
	Mardan	80	62	78%
	Nowshera	56	54	96%
	North Waziristan	13	9	69%
	Peshawar	156	136	87%
	Shangla	37	31	84%
	Swabi	64	62	97%
	Swat	77	74	96%
	South Waziristan (Upper)	93	39	42%
	South Waziristan (Lower)	42	29	69%
	Tank	34	32	94%
	Torghar	14	13	93%
	Mohmand	68	18	26%
	Orakzai	69	10	14%
Azad Jammu Kashmir	Mirpur	37	37	100%
	Bhimber	92	69	75%
	Kotli	60	60	100%
	Muzaffarabad	45	45	100%
	Poonch	46	46	100%
	Haveli	39	39	100%
	Bagh	54	27	50%
	Neelum	39	22	56%

	Jhelum Valley	29	29	100%
	Sudhnooti	27	27	100%
Islamabad Capital Territory	ICT	23	3	13%
	CDA	15	7	47%
Balochistan	Gwadar	26	1	4%
	Kech	44	0	0%
	Khuzdar	74	17	23%
	Killa Abdullah	26	23	88%
	Lasbella	55	55	100%
	Pishin	69	0	0%
	Quetta	55	0	0%
	Sibi	36	36	100%
	Zhob	39	10	26%
	Jaffarabad	16	16	100%
	Naseerabad	32	29	91%
	Kharan	30	30	100%
	Sherani	15	0	0%
	Kohlu	75	0	0%
	Chagi	36	20	56%
	Kalat	41	40	98%
	Harnai	17	8	47%
	Kachhi (Bolan)	35	18	51%
	Jhal Maghi	28	28	100%
	Sohbat pur	25	25	100%
	Surab	32	8	25%
	Mastung	46	45	98%
	Loralai	33	30	91%
	Killa Saifullah	28	24	86%
	Ziarat	29	2	7%
	Duki	31	0	0%
	Nushki	32	29	91%
	Dera Bugti	45	21	47%
	Washuk	46	0	0%
	Panjgur	38	0	0%
	Awaran	23	0	0%
	Chaman	24	0	0%
	Barkhan	20	18	90%
	Hub	33	28	85%
	Musakhel	41	0	0%
	Usta Muhammad	34	34	100%
Gilgit Baltistan	Hunza	32	32	100%
	Nagar	25	20	80%
	Ghizer	38	0	0%
	Gilgit	44	44	100%
	Diamer	62	52	84%
	Astore	55	55	100%
	Shigar	27	18	67%
	Skardu	53	52	98%
	Ganche	29	29	100%

	Kharmang	46	25	54%
Sindh	Hyderabad	72	72	100%
	Ghotki	64	64	100%
	Umerkot	62	62	100%
	Naushahro Feroze	107	102	95%
	Tharparkar	276	268	97%
	Shikarpur	60	59	98%
	Thatta	52	52	100%
	Larkana	67	66	99%
	Kamber Shadadkot	71	71	100%
	Karachi-East	21	13	62%
	Karachi-West	20	20	100%
	Karachi-Malir	35	24	69%
	Karachi-Kemari	22	21	95%
	Karachi-Central	12	11	92%
	Karachi-Korangi	18	18	100%
	Karachi-South	6	4	67%
	Sujawal	55	22	40%
	Mirpur Khas	106	106	100%
	Badin	124	123	99%
	Sukkur	64	63	98%
	Dadu	90	89	99%
	Sanghar	100	100	100%
	Jacobabad	44	44	100%
	Khairpur	170	167	98%
	Kashmore	59	59	100%
	Matiari	42	42	100%
	Jamshoro	75	74	99%
	Tando Allahyar	54	53	98%
	Tando Muhammad Khan	41	41	100%
	Shaheed Benazirabad	122	121	99%

Table 7: Compliance of IDSR reporting Tertiary care hospitals Week 51, Pakistan.

Provinces/Regions	Districts	Total Number of Reporting Sites	Number of Reported Sites for current week	Compliance Rate (%)
AJK	Mirpur	2	1	50%
	Bhimber	1	0	0%
	Kotli	1	0	0%
	Muzaffarabad	2	1	50%
	Poonch	2	0	0%
	Haveli	1	0	0%
	Bagh	1	0	0%
	Neelum	1	0	0%
	Jhelum Vellay	1	0	0%
	Sudhnooti	1	0	0%
Sindh	Karachi-South	3	1	33%
	Sukkur	1	0	0%
	Shaheed Benazirabad	1	1	100%
	Karachi-East	1	0	0%
	Karachi-Central	1	1	100%
KP	Peshawar	3	0	0%
	Swabi	1	0	0%
	Nowshera	1	1	100%
	Mardan	1	0	0%
	Abbottabad	1	1	100%
	Swat	1	0	0%

Letter to the Editor

Closing the Surveillance Gap: Pakistan's National Strategy to Prevent and Detect Healthcare-Associated Infections

Dear Editor,

Healthcare-associated infections (HCAs) remain a major but largely preventable threat to patient safety, quality of care, and health system resilience in Pakistan. They prolong hospital stays, increase healthcare costs, accelerate antimicrobial resistance, and lead to avoidable illness and death. While Pakistan has made progress through national Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) guidelines and the establishment of IPC structures at federal and provincial levels, the absence of a standardized national surveillance system has limited the country's ability to consistently detect, analyze, and respond to HCAs.

To address this gap, the National Institute of Health (NIH), under the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, in collaboration with provincial health departments, stakeholders, and development partners, has developed the National HCAI Surveillance and Response Strategic Plan 2025–2030. The strategy provides a unified framework to establish a sustainable, integrated, and resilient national HCAI surveillance system. It is aligned with WHO IPC core components, the International Health Regulations (2005), and key recommendations of Pakistan's Joint External Evaluation (JEE) 2023.

The strategic plan envisions a health system capable of preventing, detecting, and responding to healthcare-associated infections in a timely manner, ensuring safer and higher-quality care nationwide. Its mission centers on strengthening surveillance through multisectoral collaboration, workforce development, and the effective use of digital technologies. Priority actions include strengthening governance and

leadership, enhancing healthcare facility and laboratory capacity, and building a trained workforce through structured training and certification.

A central feature of the strategy is the integration of HCAI surveillance with antimicrobial resistance monitoring, laboratory information systems, and the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) system. This integrated approach enables coherent data flows, actionable analysis, and evidence-based decision-making, supported by continuous supervision, monitoring, and evaluation.

Operationalization of the strategy is guided by the National HCAs Surveillance Implementation Guidelines 2025, developed in alignment with the WHO Practical Handbook on HCAs Surveillance (2024). These guidelines translate national policy into standardized, practical actions at facility, provincial, and national levels, with a focus on generating reliable and comparable data for timely prevention and response.

The guidelines prioritize case-based surveillance of high-impact infections, including catheter-associated urinary tract infections, central line-associated bloodstream infections, ventilator-associated pneumonia, and surgical site infections, alongside laboratory-based surveillance of multidrug-resistant organisms. Surveillance is implemented through a DHIS-2-based national HCAI system hosted at the National Health Data Center (NHDC), NIH, with interoperability with IDSR. Automated case detection using WHO definitions, combined with web, mobile, and paper-based reporting, ensures standardization, timeliness, and inclusivity across diverse healthcare settings.

Clear roles and responsibilities, standardized case definitions, structured reporting formats, and stepwise guidance on data use and feedback are core elements of the guidelines. Strong emphasis is placed on data governance, patient confidentiality, ethical use of information, and capacity building through training, mentorship, and supportive supervision.

Together, the National HCAI Surveillance and Response Strategic Plan 2025–2030 and the HCAIs Surveillance Implementation Guidelines mark a transition from fragmented efforts to a coordinated national system. Through phased implementation and sustained commitment across all levels of the health system, Pakistan aims to reduce the burden of HCAIs, safeguard antimicrobial effectiveness, and strengthen health system resilience. By 2030, the country seeks to establish a fully functional, standardized, and sustainable national HCAI surveillance system, placing patient safety and infection prevention firmly at the center of the public health agenda.

Center For Disease Control – CDC

National Institute of Health – NIH

Notes from the field:

Dengue Outbreak Investigation Report, Bagh District, Azad Jammu & Kashmir (July - August 2025)

Introduction

Dengue fever is a rapidly increasing mosquito-borne viral disease, disproportionately affecting South Asia due to favorable climate, urbanization, and weak vector control.

Pakistan has experienced recurrent dengue outbreaks with expanding geographic spread, including new transmission zones. In Azad Jammu & Kashmir, dengue transmission has historically been limited; however, in August 2025, an unusual clustering of dengue cases was reported from District Bagh, prompting an outbreak investigation to assess the situation and guide response measures.

Objectives

- To confirm the dengue outbreak in District Bagh
- To assess the magnitude of the outbreak
- To identify risk factors

- To recommend prevention and control measures

Methods

A descriptive outbreak investigation was conducted in UC Chirala and UC Sahlian, Tehsil Dhirkot, District Bagh, from 20 July to 26 August 2025. The study population included all laboratory-confirmed dengue cases reported through IDSRS.

A suspected case was defined as “an individual with acute fever and at least two symptoms (headache, retro-orbital pain, myalgia, or rash)”. A confirmed case was “a suspected case with laboratory confirmation through NS1 antigen or IgM/IgG ELISA”.

Data were collected through line-listing in DHIS2, household visits for active case finding, and health facility record review. Environmental assessments and entomological surveillance were conducted to identify mosquito breeding sites. Data were analyzed by person, place, and time, and attack rates were calculated.

Results

As of 26 August 2025, a total of 48 laboratory-confirmed dengue cases were reported. The median age of cases was 34 years (range: 5–65 years). Males constituted 64.5% of cases, while females accounted for 35.5%, with a male-to-female ratio of 2:1.

Most cases were reported from Seri Bandi (60%), followed by Sikandar Abad Budal (15%), Khapadar (6%), and other scattered localities (19%). The overall attack rate was 0.26%. Entomological surveillance revealed high indices (HI 35%, CI 28%, BI 40), exceeding WHO thresholds.

Common clinical symptoms included fever (100%), headache (72%), myalgia (65%), and rash. No dengue-related deaths were reported. Laboratory testing confirmed active transmission, with the majority of cases testing NS1 antigen positive. Environmental assessments identified stagnant water, open drains, and improper water storage as major risk factors.



Discussion

The investigation confirms an active dengue outbreak in District Bagh with localized clustering and sustained transmission. High vector indices and environmental conditions favorable for mosquito breeding were key contributors. The predominance of cases among males and working-age adults suggests increased outdoor exposure. While no fatalities were reported, gaps in vector control capacity, diagnostic availability, and entomological expertise highlight the need for strengthened preparedness and response.

Conclusion

The dengue outbreak in District Bagh highlights the expanding epidemiology of dengue in Pakistan, including previously low-risk areas. Strengthened surveillance, integrated vector management, and sustained community engagement are critical to interrupt transmission and prevent future outbreaks.

Recommendations

- Strengthen integrated vector management with regular larval surveillance
- Ensure adequate supply of diagnostic kits and essential medicines
- Deploy entomological expertise at district level
- Intensify risk communication and community engagement
- Enhance IDSRS-based early warning and response mechanisms

References

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Knowledge Hub

Understanding Dengue: Transmission, Symptoms, and Prevention

What is Dengue?

Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral disease caused by the dengue virus and transmitted primarily by *Aedes* mosquitoes. It commonly occurs in tropical and subtropical regions and can lead to outbreaks, especially during the monsoon season.

Symptoms:

- Fever
- Severe headache
- Pain behind the eyes
- Muscle and joint pain
- Nausea or vomiting
- Skin rash and fatigue

In severe cases, dengue can cause bleeding, plasma leakage, and shock, requiring urgent medical care.

How is Dengue Spread?

Dengue is transmitted through the bite of an infected *Aedes* mosquito, which usually bites during daytime hours. Dengue does not spread directly from person to person.

How to Prevent Dengue

Here are some essential steps to prevent dengue:

- **Prevent Mosquito Breeding:** Eliminate stagnant water from containers, water tanks, tyres, and flower pots.
- **Protect Against Mosquito Bites:** Use mosquito repellents, coils, and screens; wear long-sleeved clothing, especially during the day.
- **Use Bed Nets:** Sleep under bed nets, particularly for children, pregnant women, and sick individuals.

- **Environmental Management:** Keep surroundings clean and coordinate with local authorities for waste management and drainage.
- **Community Participation:** Support community-led source reduction and vector control activities.

When to Seek Medical Attention

Seek immediate medical attention if you experience any of the following:

- Persistent high fever
- Severe abdominal pain
- Bleeding from nose or gums
- Vomiting or difficulty drinking fluids
- Extreme weakness or drowsiness

Additional Resources

For more information on dengue and prevention measures, please visit:

World Health Organization (WHO):

<https://www.who.int/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/>

National Institutes of Health (NIH):

<https://www.nih.gov/>



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