

Case study



Acute Flaccid Paralysis surveillance system performance in Jordan, 2012-2016: a teaching case-study

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Abstract

Nationwide Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) surveillance is one of the key strategies to timely detect paralytic poliomyelitis and to respond effectively to interrupt poliovirus transmission. One way to ensure that AFP surveillance is implemented with the required standards and to identify limitations and gaps in order to maintain the polio-free status is conducting evaluation of AFP surveillance. This case study simulates an evaluation of AFP surveillance system in Jordan from 2012-2016 for teaching purposes to develop competencies in evaluating AFP surveillance using WHO minimum performance indicators. It was designed for the training of basic level field epidemiology trainees or any other health care providers working in public health-related fields, who should be able to complete this exercise in approximately 3-4 hours.

How to use this case study

General instructions: this case study should be used as adjunct training material for novice epidemiology trainees to reinforce the concepts taught in prior lectures. The case study is ideally taught by a facilitator in groups of about 20 participants. Participants are to take turns reading the case study, usually a paragraph per student. The facilitator guides the

discussion on possible responses to questions. The facilitator may make use of flip charts to illustrate certain points. Additional instructor's notes for facilitation are coupled with each question in the instructor's guide to aid facilitation.

Audience: this case study was developed for novice field epidemiology students. These participants are commonly health care workers working in the country departments of health whose background may be as medical doctors, nurses, environmental health officers or laboratory scientists who work in public health-related fields. Most have a health science or biology background.

Prerequisites: before using this case study, participants should have received lectures on AFP surveillance and WHO performance indicators for AFP surveillance.

Materials needed: Flash drive, flip charts, markers, computers with MS Excel

Level of training and associated public health activity: Novice – Evaluation of surveillance system

Time required: 3-4 hours

Language: English

Case study material

- Download the case study student guide
- Request the case study facilitator guide

Competing interest

The authors declare no competing interests.

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