

WEEKLY EPIDEMIOLOGY REPORT



MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

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Disease	Variables	Previous week (35), 2017	Current week (36), 2017	Cumulative week 1-36, 2017
Acute Flaccid Paralysis	Cases	0	0	0
	Death	0	0	0
	CFR	0%	0%	0%
Measles	Cases	0	0	0
	Death	0	0	0
	CFR	0%	0%	0%
Diarrhea with blood	Cases	80	148	1790
	Death	0	0	0
	CFR	0%	0%	0%
Meningitis	Cases	0	0	0
	Death	0	0	0
	CFR	0%	0%	0%
Yellow Fever	Cases	0	0	0
	Death	0	0	0
	CFR	0%	0%	0%
Schistosomiasis	Cases	0	0	0
	Death	0	0	0
	CFR	0%	0%	0%
Public Health Events (Food Poisoning)	Cases	0	16	16
	Death	0	1	1
	CFR	0%	6.3%	6.3%

Weekly Epidemic Update, Epi week 36

14th September 2017

Summary

In the week under review, there were 148 cases of Diarrhea with Blood in the country. Out of the 148 cases of diarrhea with blood, 85 (57%) were under five years. The North Bank East has the highest incidence rate of 0.39%. There was a case of suspected Yellow fever which was confirmed negative.

In NBW, an event of Public Health Importance was reported. The event was a suspected food poisoning with a case fatality of 6%. Investigations are still ongoing; the preliminary findings are detailed in the disease section below.

All the other diseases under surveillance during this week were reported zero across the country.

1.1: Diarrhoea with Blood

There are 148 cases reported from the 7 regions across the country. The highest incidence rate of 0.39% was reported from North Bank East. The Central River Region reported an incidence rate of 0.22%, Lower River Region, 0.018%; North Bank West; 0.015%; Upper River Region; 0.006%. The Western Region 1 and 2 reported a combined incidence rate of 0.001%.

This data could not be compared with the same period last year because there is no consistent weekly surveillance data reported, which is a limitation of this bulletin.

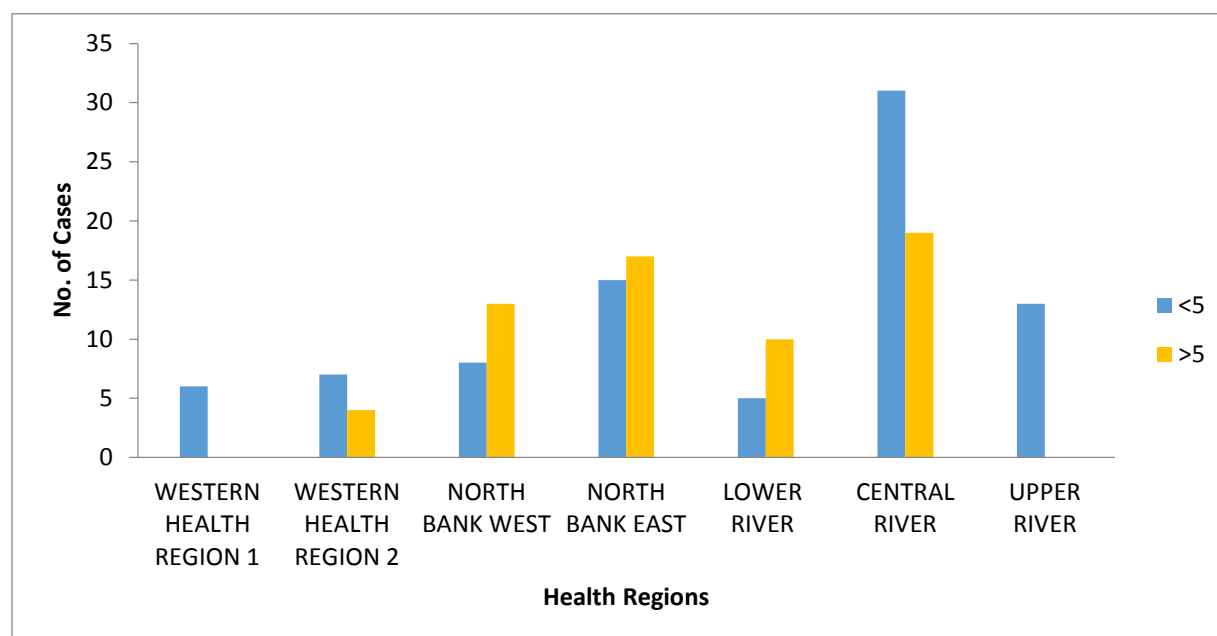


Figure 1.2: Cases of Diarrhea with blood by Health Region, The Gambia, Epi Week 36, 2017.

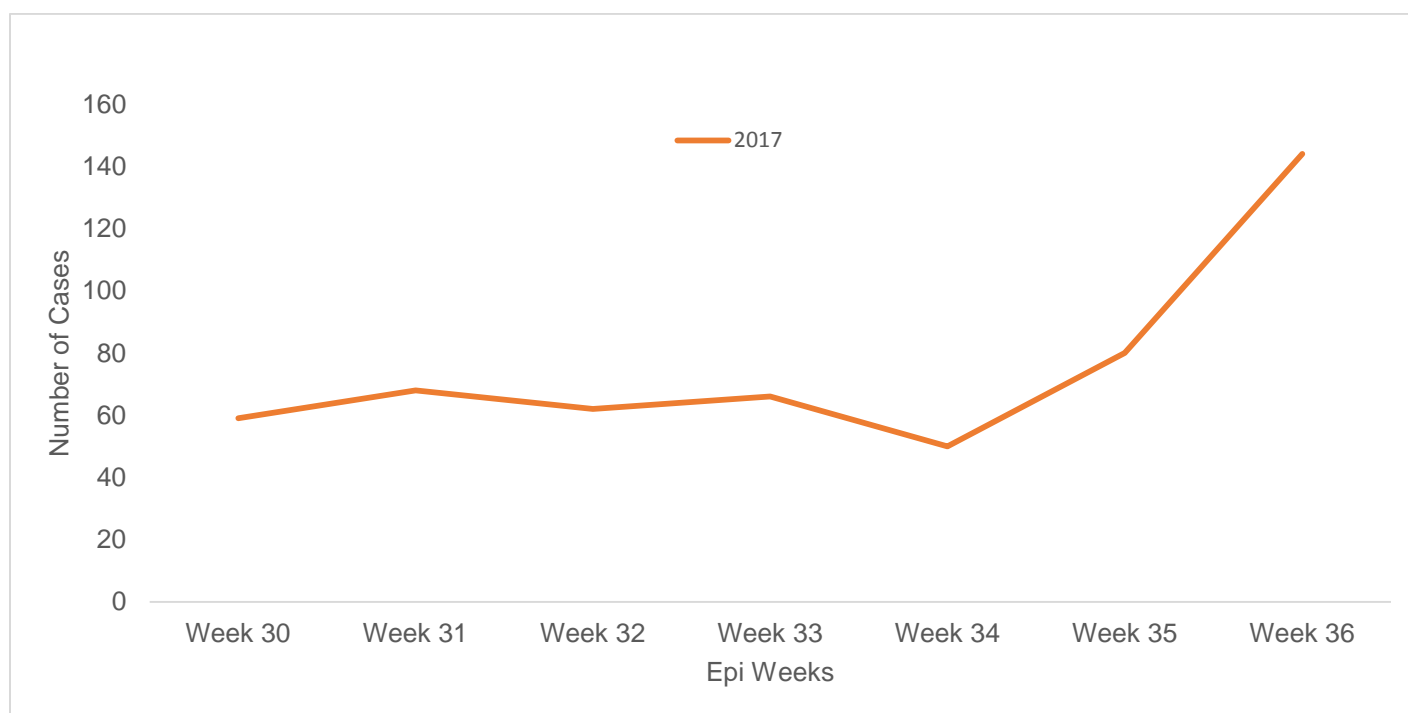


Figure 1.2: A trend of cases of diarrhea with blood in The Gambia, Epi Week 30 - 36, 2017

1.2. Public Health Events

Food Poisoning

Kuntair Health Center in NBW reported a cluster of cases with similar signs and symptoms of abdominal pain, diarrhea and vomiting on the 5th of September, 2017. The event was diagnosed as suspected food poisoning which affected one compound in the village. A total of 16 people were affected and three were hospitalized. The attack rate was 61% and Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was 6.3%. However there was no sample of the suspected food available for laboratory analysis.

Conclusion

In Epi Week 36, 2017, all regions across the country sent in the reports. Two disease conditions and one health events were reported. Diarrhea with blood was reported by from all regions with more cases reported from NBW and CRR. A cluster of health event reported from a compound in NBW was a suspected case of food poisoning probably due to *Staphylococcus Aureus* infection (incubation period was 2-3 hours)

The surveillance data for the same period last year is not available to allow comparison.

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