

Summary:

- Out of 613 functional Surveillance sentinel sites, 584 (95.3%) have submitted reports this week.
- A total of 584,978 new consultations, 208,312 (35.6%) were due to Surveillance targeted diseases. That included 110,077 (52.8%) males and 98,236 (47.2%) females. Also, 99,964 (48%) under five years old and 108,349 (52%) five years old and over, reported this week.
- The main causes of consultations in this week were ARI Cough & Cold, 135,299 (23.1%) cases out of total new consultations, Acute Diarrheal Diseases 42,697 (7.3%) cases out of total new consultations, and Pneumonia 25,757 (4.4%) cases out of total new consultations.
- A total of 156 deaths were reported this week, of which 85 (54.5%) deaths were due to Surveillance targeted diseases, which include 78 Pneumonia deaths, 03 Suspected Meningitis/ Severely Ill Child deaths, 01 COVID-19 death, 01 Suspected Measles death, 01 Suspected Acute Viral Hepatitis death and 01 Pregnancy-related death.
- In addition, during this week 24 outbreaks were reported (09 Suspected Measles outbreaks were reported from Farah, Ghazni, Helmand, Paktya, Wardak and Zabul Provinces, 05 Suspected Chickenpox outbreaks were reported from Herat, Jawzjan, Paktika and Paktya Provinces, 03 Clinical Scabies outbreaks were reported from Kapisa, Kunduz and Parwan provinces, 03 Suspected Pertussis outbreaks were reported from Farah and Kapisa provinces, 01 Suspected Mumps outbreak was reported from Urozgan Province, 01 Dog bites/suspected rabies was reported Wardak Province, 01 AVH-HBs outbreak was reported from Kunar Province and 01 Cutaneous Leishmaniasis was reported from Kabul Province).
- Moreover, 353 COVID-19 confirmed cases, 780 Suspected Measles cases and 02 sporadic lab confirmed CCHF cases were reported at national level.

Figure1: Surveillance/NDSR Sentinel Sites with GPS location by type of Health Facility, 2023

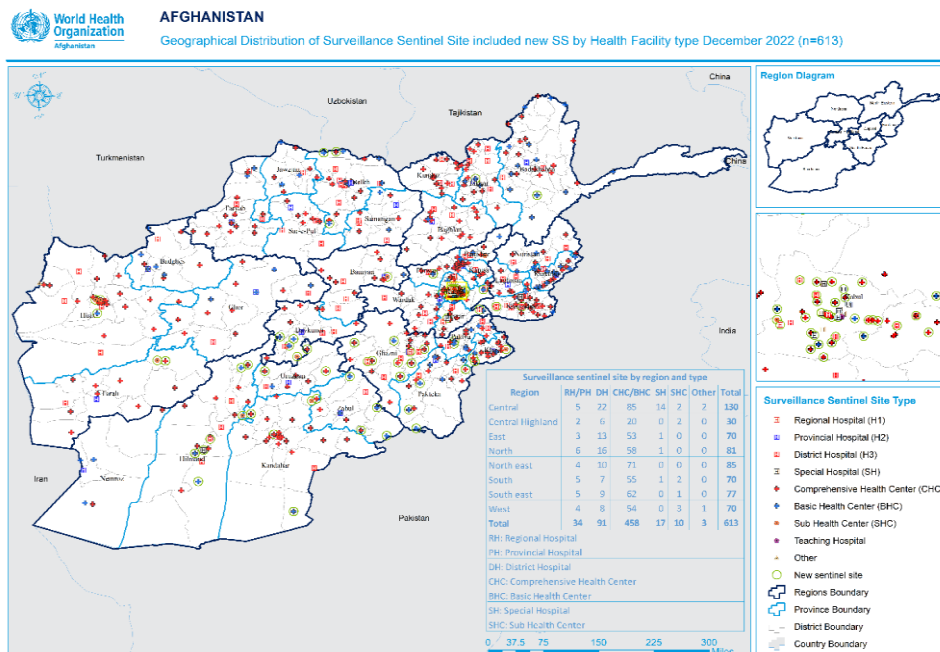


Table 1: Coverage of NDSR Surveillance System

Type of Health Facility	RH	PH	DH	CHC	BHC	NH/ Special Hospital	SHC	Other	Total
Total Health Facilities (HF)	8	27	91	437	900	36	1,106	2,093	4,698
HF covered by NDSR-Plus	8	26	90	348	111	17	10	3	613

Indicator – based Surveillance (IBS):

The indicator-based surveillance component of NDSR, report 17 priority conditions/infectious diseases from sentinel sites on weekly bases. The data is compared with previous weeks and the corresponding weeks of previous three years and the alert and epidemic threshold is checked to see if disease incidence has crossed these levels and necessary action is initiated.

Figure 2: A

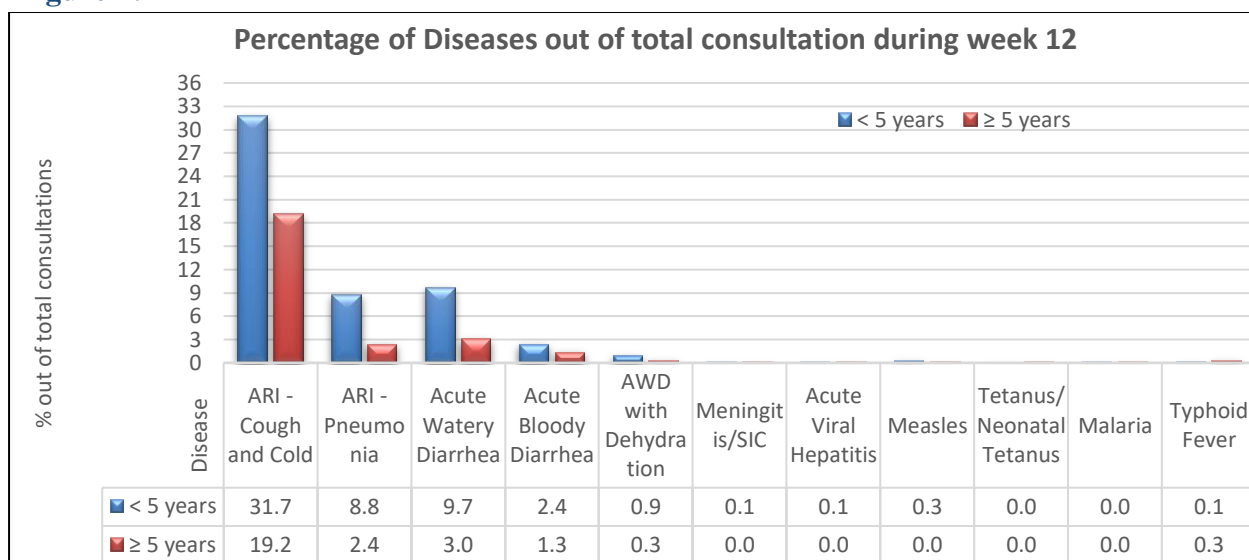


Figure 2: B

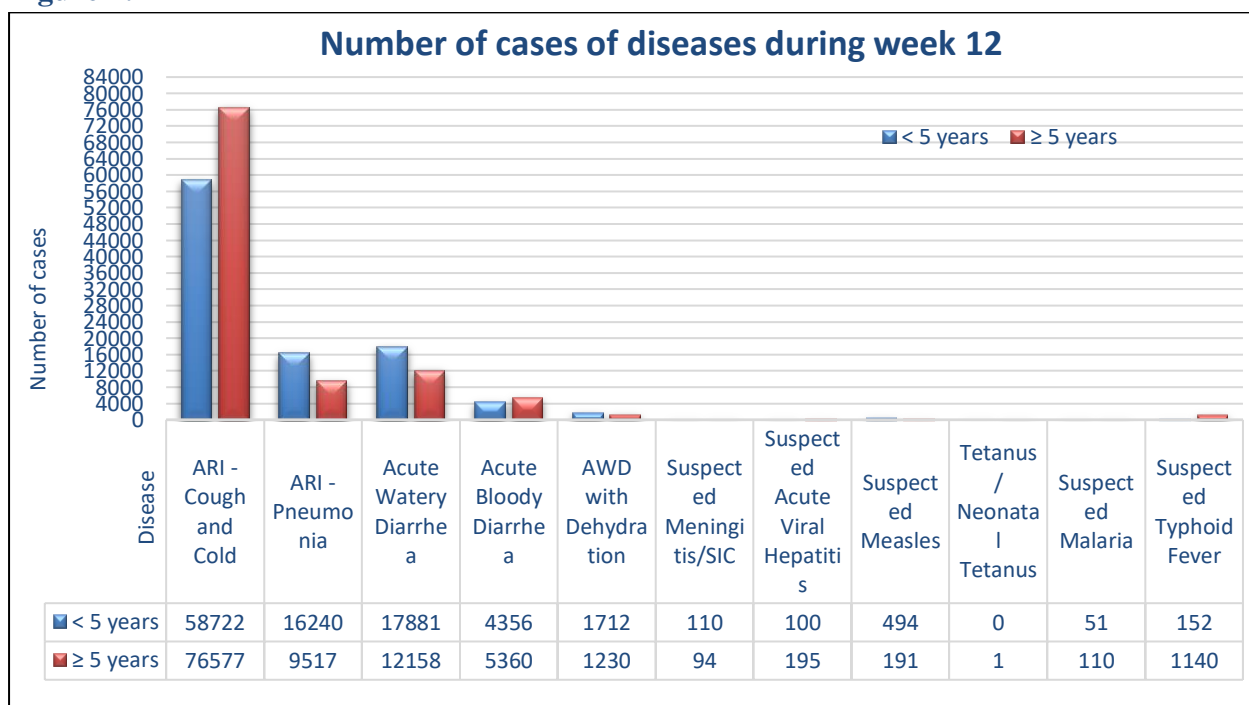


Table 2: IBS Cases and deaths due to VPDs by age group during week 12th 2023

Diseases	Cases			Deaths			CFR/100
	<5 years	≥ 5 years	Total	<5 years	≥ 5 years	Total	
Suspected Measles	494	191	685	1	0	1	0.15

Seasonal Diseases:

Figure 3: A

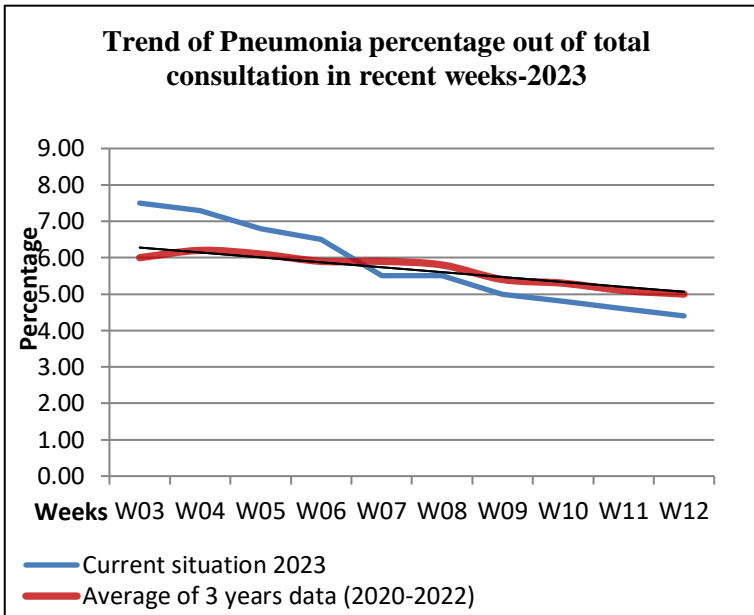


Figure 3: B

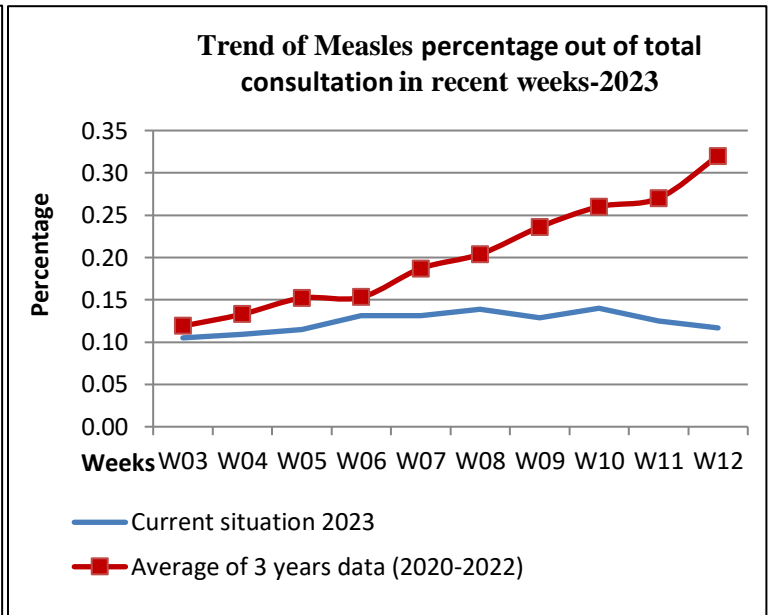


Figure 3: C

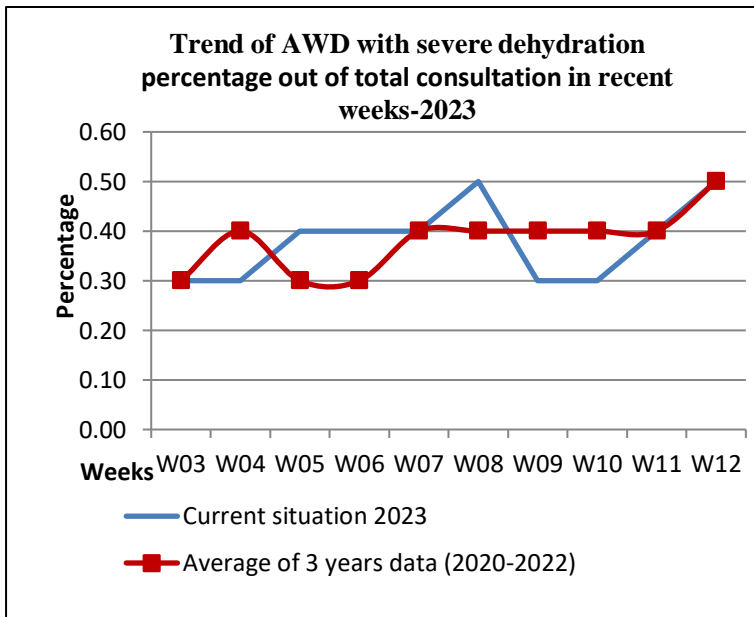


Figure 3: D

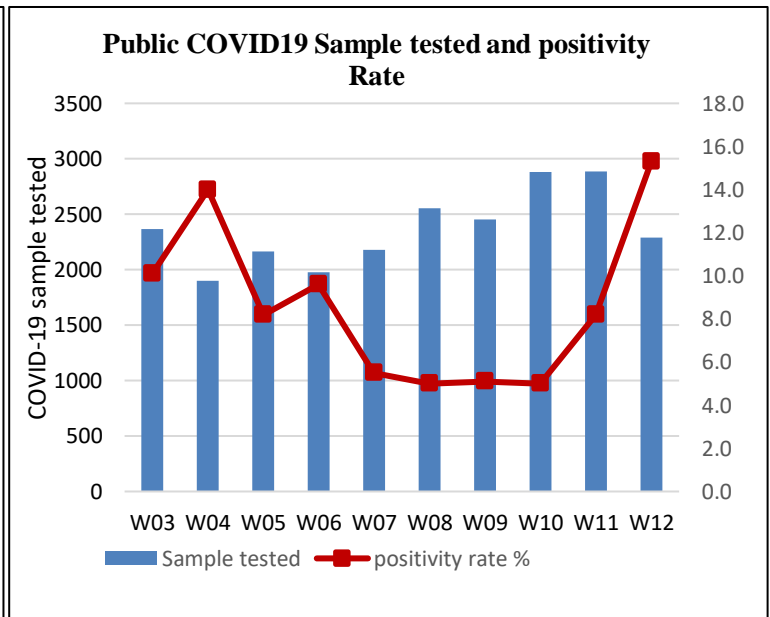


Table 3: Outbreaks in week 12th 2023:

Suspected Measles outbreaks from Farah, Ghazni, Helmand, Paktya, Wardak and Zabul Provinces										
Reported dated	Province	District	Village	<5 cases	≥5 cases	Total cases	Deaths	Vaccination coverage		Recommendation/Action taken
								Reported	Assessed	
20/03/2023	Farah	Bala Bolook	Spanzay And Rubat Turkan	13	5	18	0	NA	30%	<p>During this week, 09 suspected Measles outbreaks were reported from Farah, Ghazni, Helmand, Paktya, Wardak and Zabul Provinces. The outbreaks were investigated, case management was done for all the cases. Also, health education sessions were conducted. Vaccination of children in the surrounding villages of the affected area is going on.</p>
19-03-2023	Ghazni	Andar	Charkhana	9	4	13	0	NA	NA	
17/03/2023	Helmand	Lashkarga City	Majhajirin Kali	4	6	10	0	NA	34%	
17/03/2023		Marjah	Molawi Abd Salam Block	5	5	10	0	NA	22%	
18/03/2023		Grishk	Haji Nasar Aka Bawoari	4	4	8	0	NA	21%	
18/03/2023		Baghran	Khowja Bahwadin Kali	5	5	10	0	NA	14%	
19/03/2023		Paktya	Gardez	Zunda Khail	9	1	10	0	N/A	
22/03/2023	Wardak	Said Abad	Salar	5	2	7	0	75%	56%	

22/03/2023	Zabul	Siory	Fatullah	5	4	9	0	72%	13%	
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Suspected Chickenpox outbreaks from Herat, Jawzjan, Paktika and Paktya provinces

Reported dated	Province	District	Village	Total cases	Total deaths	Recommendation/Action take
21/03/2023	Herat	Injil	Robat pirdaza	29	0	During this week 05 Suspected Chickenpox outbreaks were reported from Herat, Jawzjan, Paktika and Paktya Provinces, case management was done. Health education sessions were conducted for all the cases.
21/03/2023	Jawzjan	Mengajik	Safar wali	7	0	
22/03/2023		Sheberghan	Kenara	22	0	
21/03/2023	Paktika	Waza khwa	Safari	9	0	
17/03/2023	Paktya	Gardez	Balada	61	0	

Clinical Scabies outbreaks from Kapisa, Kunduz and Parwan provinces

Reported dated	Province	District	Village	Total cases	Total deaths	Recommendation/Action take
22/3/2023	Kapisa	Center	Naser Khail	10	0	During this week 03 Clinical Scabies outbreaks were reported from Kapisa, Kunduz and Parwan Provinces, Case management was done. Health education sessions were conducted for all the cases.
18/03/2023	Kunduz	Emam Sahib	Madrasah Mazharul Olum	68	0	
20/3/2023	Parwan	Charikar	Parcha-E-13	13	0	

Suspected Pertussis outbreaks from Farah and Kapisa provinces

Reported dated	Province	District	Village	Total cases	Total deaths	Recommendation/Action take
23/03/2023	Farah	City	Area 6th	22	0	During this week 03 suspected Pertussis outbreaks were reported from Farah and Kapisa provinces, case management was done. Health education sessions were conducted for all the cases.
21/3/2023	Kapisa	Nijrab	Ghocholan	24	0	
24/3/2023		Nijrab	Afghaniah	10	0	

Suspected Mumps outbreak from Urozgan province						
Reported Dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Recommendation/Action take
20/03/2023	Urozgan	Tarinkot	Shah Zafar	6	0	During this week 01 Suspected Mumps outbreak was reported from Urozgan province, case management was done. Health education session was conducted for all the cases.

Dog bite/suspected rabies outbreak from Wardak province						
Reported Dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Recommendation/Action take
22/03/2023	Wardak	Narkh	Srah Qala	7	0	During this week 01 Suspected Rabies/Dog bite outbreak was reported from Wardak province, case management was done. Health education session was conducted for all the cases.

Cutaneous Leishmaniasis outbreak from Kabul province						
Reported Dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Recommendation/Action take
19/03/2023	Kabul	Bagrami	Sedaqat Village, Gosfand Dara	49	0	During this week 01 Cutaneous Leishmaniasis outbreak was reported from Kabul province, case management was done. Health education session was conducted for all the cases.

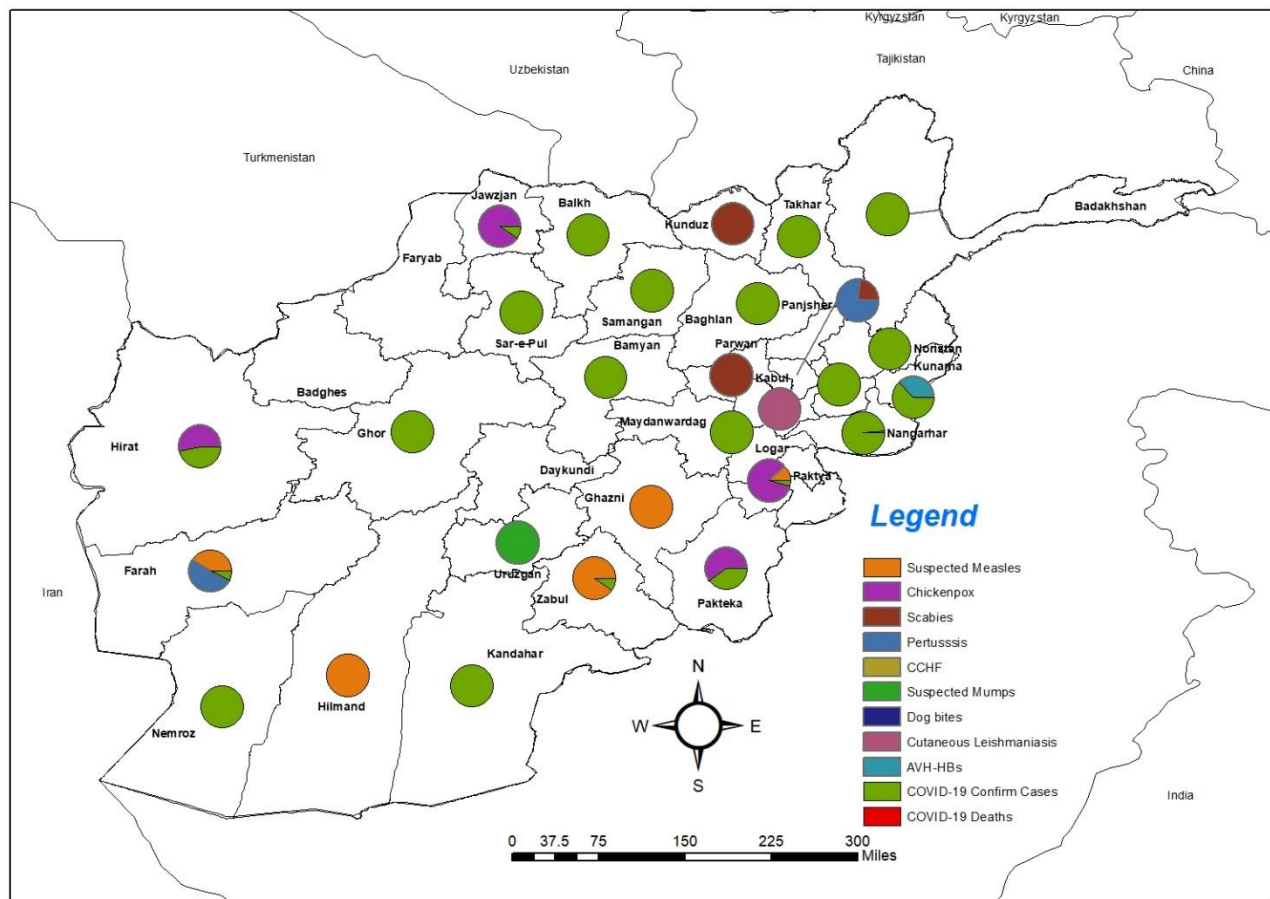
AVH-HBs outbreak from Kunar province						
Reported Dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Recommendation/Action take
20/03/2023	Kunar	Khas Kunar	Hijratabad	10	0	During this week 01 AVH-HBs outbreak was reported from Kunar province, case management was done. Health education session was conducted for all the cases.

Table 4: Updated outbreaks report during 2023 (01 Jan 2023 to 25 Mar 2023)

Disease/Event	Count of Disease/Event	Sum of Lab Confirm	Sum of total Cases	Sum of Total Deaths
Measles	107	38	1234	6
CCHF	0	0	0	0
Dog bites/Suspected Rabies	21	0	176	0
Pertussis	16	0	183	0
Acute Watery Diarrhea	0	0	0	0
Food Poisoning	0	0	0	0
Unknown Poisoning	0	0	0	0

Scabies	50	0	1832	0
Chickenpox	56	1	1462	0
Leishmaniosis	4	0	197	0
Cat bite suspected rabies	0	0	0	0
Mumps	24	0	296	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	29	1	1074	24
ARI Cough and cold	1	0	24	0
Dengue fever	0	0	0	0
Skin disease	1	0	545	0
Anthrax	2	0	2	0
Confirmed Malaria	0	0	0	0
Acute Viral Hepatitis (AVH)	1	0	10	0
Suspected Typhoid fever	2	0	36	0
COVID-19	1	1	2375	42
Grand Total	315	41	9446	72

Figure 4: Suspected Measles, Suspected Chickenpox, Clinical Scabies, Suspected Pertussis, Suspected Mumps, Dog bites, Cutaneous Leishmaniasis, AVH-HBs and Covid-19 cases and deaths during the week 12th 2023.



Laboratory surveillance:

A total of **3736** specimens were collected and shipped to CPHL and other regional laboratories. Out of which **353** specimens were confirmed for COVID-19, **69** specimens were confirmed for **Measles**, **17** specimens were confirmed for **Acute Viral Hepatitis**, **02** specimens were confirmed for **Dengue Fever** and **01** specimen was confirmed for **Brucellosis**. (Follow-up by the CPHL is going on).

Influenza Surveillance activities:

In Epidemiological week 12th 2023, we have received Epidemiological reports from 09 out of 09 sentinel sites. (Kabul, Kandahar, Balkh, Herat, Bamyan, Baghlan, Nangarhar, Kapisa and Paktya). Out of all new hospital admissions, 217 (7.3%) Severe Acute Respiratory Infections cases were reported and 65% were under 5 years old. The proportion of SARI cases were slightly increased compared to week 11th 2023. 07 SARI-associated deaths were reported this week. At the 09 provincial levels, the top sentinel sites with the highest proportion of SARI cases were Kabul (33.0%), Kapisa (24.3%), and Bamyan (21.2%) provinces. During this Epi-week, our field staff shipped 54 SARI and 36 ILI specimens to the National Influenza Center (NIC).

COVID-19 Surveillance activities:

In this week, **2288** specimens were tested for suspected COVID-19. Out of which **353** specimens were confirmed for COVID-19 by RT-PCR.

- COVID-19 case positivity rate was 15.4 % in this week, which increased 7.2 % compared to the previous week.
- Out of **353** confirmed cases, **889** contacts of **209** were traced that were mostly family members with an average of 4 contacts per one case, and will be continued until 14 days of their last contact with the confirmed cases. Also, surveillance screening teams screened all the passengers at the points of entry for fever. In addition, health education was conducted for them, about **55,176** passengers have been screened for COVID-19 at the points of entry of five provinces (Balkh, Herat, Nangarhar, Kandahar and Nimroz).

Challenges:

- COVID-19 case positivity rate increased 7.2 % this week
- Measles cases are still a public health concern in the country, this week **780** (IBS+EBS data) measles cases were reported to the surveillance system
- ARI pneumonia cases are on the decreasing (0.2%) trend compared to last weeks of the same weeks of the previous year, but AWD cases are on the increasing trend compared to last week (0.5%).
- Weak response system to outbreaks at the national level

Recommendations:

- COVID-19 preventive and control measures should be strengthened
- Public awareness regarding AWD prevention and control is needed
- Vaccine preventable diseases (especially Measles and Pertussis vaccination and preventive measures) should be strengthened.
- The measles response strategy should be reviewed in order to respond to the current measles epidemic situation

- RRTs establishment at the provincial and national level is needed, to timely investigate and respond the outbreaks
 - **EPI:** As the surveillance system detected **780** suspected Measles cases at the national level, so further prevention and control measures should be conducted by the EPI team.
- The findings should be analyzed further at different levels and appropriate actions to be taken by the concerned departments.