

Early Warning and Reporting System (EWARS)

Weekly Bulletin

(3rd Epidemiological Week)

31 January 2016



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Health and Population
Department of Health Services
Epidemiology and Disease Control Division
Kathmandu, Nepal
ewarsedcd@gmail.com

This bulletin includes the updates from two surveillance systems:

1. The Early Warning Reporting System (EWARS) includes data since January 2015 till date, including comparison of same period during last year.
2. Post-earthquake hospital based syndromic surveillance system covering public and private hospitals in the 14 districts highly affected by the April 2015 Earthquake.

Section 1: The Early Warning and Reporting System (EWARS)

Highlights	
•	Two deaths from SARI were reported this week, one from BPKIHS, Dharan and one from United Mission Hospital, Palpa. The cases were from Dhankuta and Nawalparasi districts.
•	No case of Malaria, Dengue and Kala-azar were reported this week.

The EWARS was established in 1997 to strengthen the flow of information on vector-borne and other outbreak prone infectious diseases from the district to Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (EDCD) and Vector-Borne Disease Research and Training Center (VBDRTC), Hetauda. Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) can be mobilized at short notice to facilitate prompt outbreak response at Central, Regional and District level. They can also support local level health institutions for investigation and outbreak control activities.

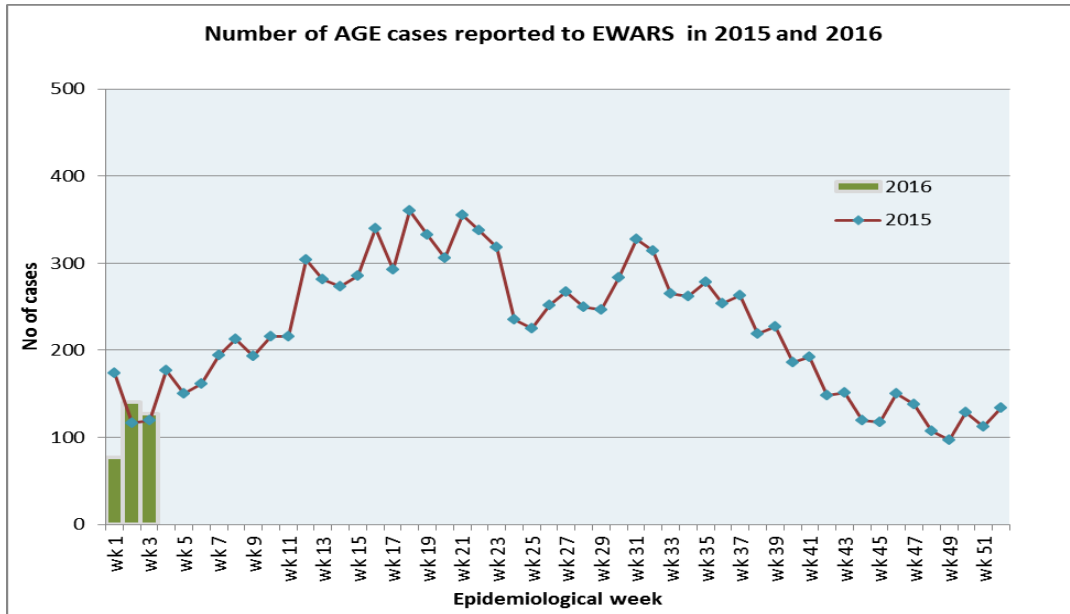
This information system is hospital-based and is currently operational in 48 hospitals (out of 81 sites) throughout Nepal (Figure 1). So far, the EWARS mainly focuses on the **weekly reporting** of number of cases and deaths (including "zero" reports) of six priority diseases/syndromes—Malaria, Kala-azar, Dengue, Acute Gastroenteritis (AGE), Cholera and Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI), and other epidemic potential diseases/syndromes (like enteric fever). It equally focuses on **immediate reporting** (to be reported within 24 hours of diagnosis) of one confirmed case of Cholera, Kala-azar severe and complicated Malaria and one suspect/clinical case of Dengue as well as 5 or more cases of AGE and SARI from the same geographical locality in one week period.



1.1 Acute Gastro-Enteritis and Cholera

127 cases of AGE were reported in 3rd epidemiological week of 2016. Among 127 cases, the majority of cases were from Morang (18 cases), Kanchanpur (13 cases), Kathmandu (12 cases), Jhapa (9 cases) and Doti (10 cases) districts.

The number of AGE cases reported in week second this year slightly exceeds the number of AGE cases reported in the same week last year (120 cases). In 2015, the number of acute gastro-enteritis continuously increased from January to April and was above 300 cases at the time of the earthquake (week 16).

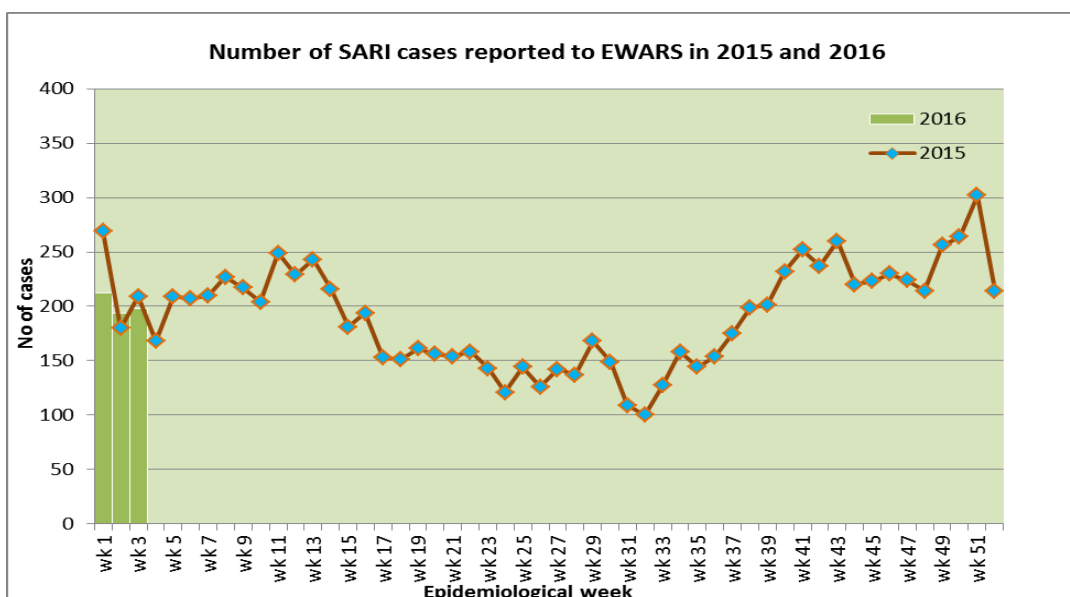


1.2 Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI)

198 cases of SARI were reported in 3rd epidemiological week of 2016. The cases of SARI reported this week did not exceed the number reported in the same week last year (209 cases). Among 198 cases, 31 were from Morang, 26 from Rupandehi, 23 from Sunsari, 22 from Kailali, and 12 cases each from Saptari and Siraha.

Two deaths from SARI were reported this week, one from BPKIHS, Dharan and one from United Mission Hospital Palpa. The cases were from Dhankuta and Nawalparasi districts.

The number of SARI cases reported through EWARS has peaked in week 11 (256 cases), week 43 (260 cases) and week 51 (302 cases) in 2015. Eighty-one deaths from SARI were reported in year 2015.



1.3 Enteric Fever

In week third of 2016, only 3 cases of enteric fever were reported from Dhading district. The number of cases of enteric fever has peaked in week 37 in 2015 (71 cases).

1.4 Malaria

No case of Malaria was reported this week. Ninety cases of Malaria were reported through EWARS in 2015.

1.5 Dengue

No case of Dengue was reported this week. Fifty-eight cases of Dengue were reported through EWARS in 2015.

1.6 Kala-azar

No case of Kala-azar was reported this week. 135 cases of Kala-azar were reported through EWARS in 2015.

Section 2: Post-Earthquake Hospital Based Syndromic Disease Surveillance

Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (EDCD) has been continuing post-earthquake hospital based syndromic surveillance system. The system covers 38 hospitals and primary health care centres in 14 earthquake affected districts; however 8 districts reported in last three weeks.

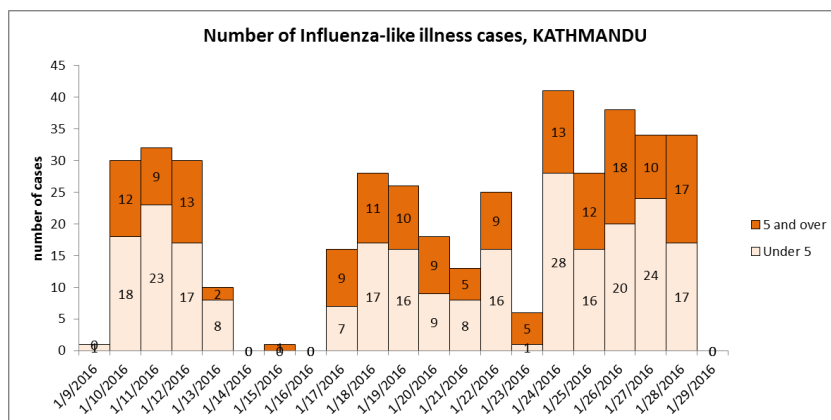
The objective of hospital based syndromic surveillance is to rapidly identify any increase in a number of outbreak prone syndromes. It helps us to ensure that outbreaks are not missed. The number of syndromes crossing the threshold level (doubling of the average of the previous 7 days, with a minimum of 5 cases) triggers an alert. But only one case triggers the alert for suspected cholera and fever with rash. Similarly, more than 5 cases in a 7 days' period trigger an alert for fever with jaundice.

The surveillance includes 8 syndromes: **Influenza like illness (ILI), severe acute respiratory infection (SARI), acute watery diarrhoea, acute bloody diarrhoea, suspected cholera, fever with rash, fever with jaundice and fever without rash and jaundice.** In this report, the data analysis was done for last three weeks.

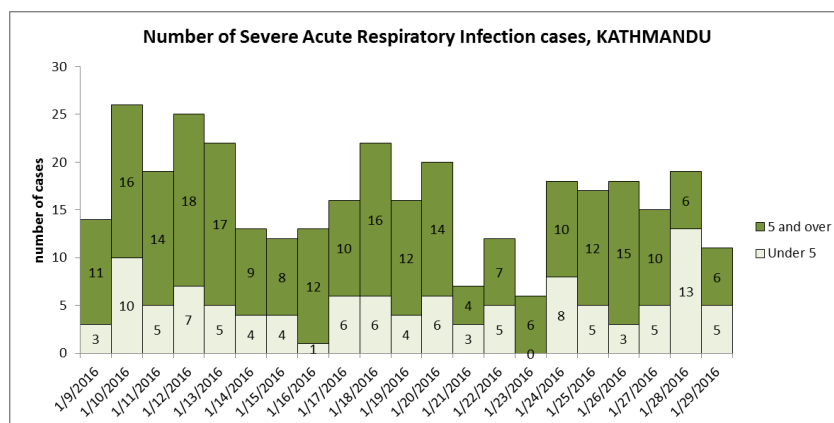
Highlights
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The number of Acute watery diarrhoea peaked on 21st January with 21 cases and seems to be fluctuating afterwards.▪ Two cases of Acute bloody diarrhoea was seen in last three weeks.▪ The number of Influenza like Illness (ILI) peaked on 24th January with 70 cases and seems to be in fluctuating afterwards.▪ The number of Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) peaked on 10th January with 29 cases and seems to be fluctuating afterwards.▪ Twenty one cases of Fever with jaundice were seen in last three weeks.▪ The number Fever with rash peaked on 26th January with 14 cases.▪ The number of Fever without rash and jaundice peaked on 10th January with 50 cases.

Analysis of information on 8 syndromes collected from hospitals in the earthquake affected 14 districts within 21 days shows that except in Kathmandu district, no remarkable observations (increase or decrease) of outbreak prone syndromes were noticed. Reports were received from Kavre, Lalitpur, Makwanpur, Okhaldhunga, Ramechhap, Rasuwa and Sindhupalchowk districts, while Bhaktapur, Dhading, Dolakha, Gorkha, Nuwakot and Sindhuli districts did not report in last week.

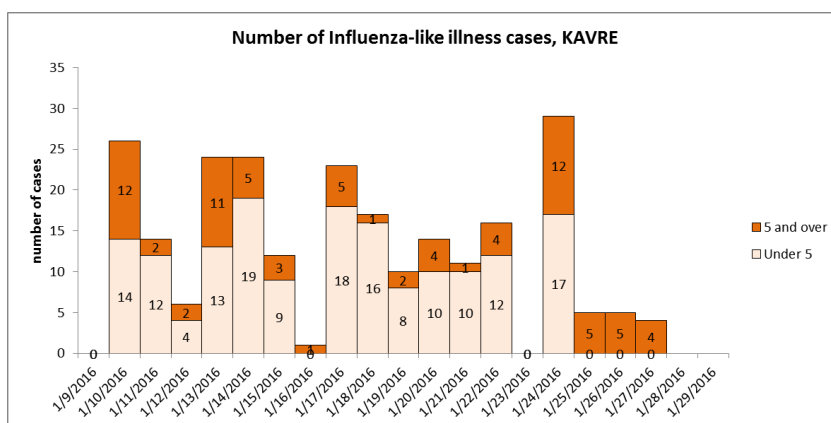
In Kathmandu, the number of influenza like illness has peaked on 24th January with 41 cases. The daily cases reported this week seems higher than the previous weeks.



The number of severe acute respiratory infection has peaked on 10th January with 26 cases in Kathmandu Valley.



In Kavre, the number of influenza like illness peaked on 24th January with 29 cases.



Acknowledgement

The Epidemiology and Disease Control Division highly acknowledges the contribution from all the medical recorders, EWARS focal persons, rapid response team members and support from WHO and NHSSP for preparation of this bulletin.

Timeliness & completeness of reporting from sentinel sites:

Site Code	Sentinel Sites	Timeliness (%)	Completeness (%)	Site code	Sentinel Sites	Timeliness (%)	Completeness (%)
101	Mechi ZH, Jhapa	98	66	125	MZH, Kanchanpur	100	100
102	Koshi ZH, Morang	100	100	126	DH, Doti	96	33
103	DH, Sunsari	100	100	127	DH, Bardiya	100	100
104	BPKIHS, Dharan	96	100	128	DH, Mahottari	96	33
105	DH, Dhankuta	100	100	129	DH, Dadeldhura	0	0
106	SZH, Saptari	98	100	130	DH, Rasuwa	96	33
107	RKUP, Lahan, Siraha	98	100	131	DH, Sankhuwasabha	0	0
108	DH, Siraha	100	100	132	AMDA Hosp., Jhapa	100	100
109	JZH, Dhanusha	0	0	133	DH, Chautara	98	100
110	DH, Rautahat	0	0	134	DH, Sarlahi	0	0
111	DH, Bara	0	0	135	DH, Sindhuli	96	100
112	NSRH, Parsa	96	33	136	DH, Illam	98	100
113	DH, Makawanpur	98	100	137	Dhulikhel H., Kavre	98	100
114	NZH, Chitwan	0	0	138	DH, Solukhumbu	0	0
115	Kanti CH, Kathmandu	0	0	139	DH, Dolpa	0	0
116	STH, Kathmandu	100	100	140	DH, Humla	0	0
117	UMH, Palpa	98	100	201	Lamjung Comm DH, Lamjung	100	100
118	PCH, Nawalparasi	0	0	202	DH, Dhading	100	100
119	PBH, Kapilvastu	100	100	203	DH, Ramechhap	98	66
120	LZH, Rupandehi	100	100				
121	RSRH Dang	0	0				
122	MWRH, Surkhet	100	100				
123	BZH, Banke	0	0				
124	SZH, Kailali	100	100				

Excellent (>80)

Satisfactory (50-79)

Bad (<50)

Note: EWARS reporting form (in MS Excel format) is available at EDCD's official website www.edcd.org.np. This bulletin is also available at the website.