



# ADVERSE EVENTS FOLLOWING IMMUNIZATION WITH ORAL CHOLERA VACCINES IN LEBANON

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT N°2

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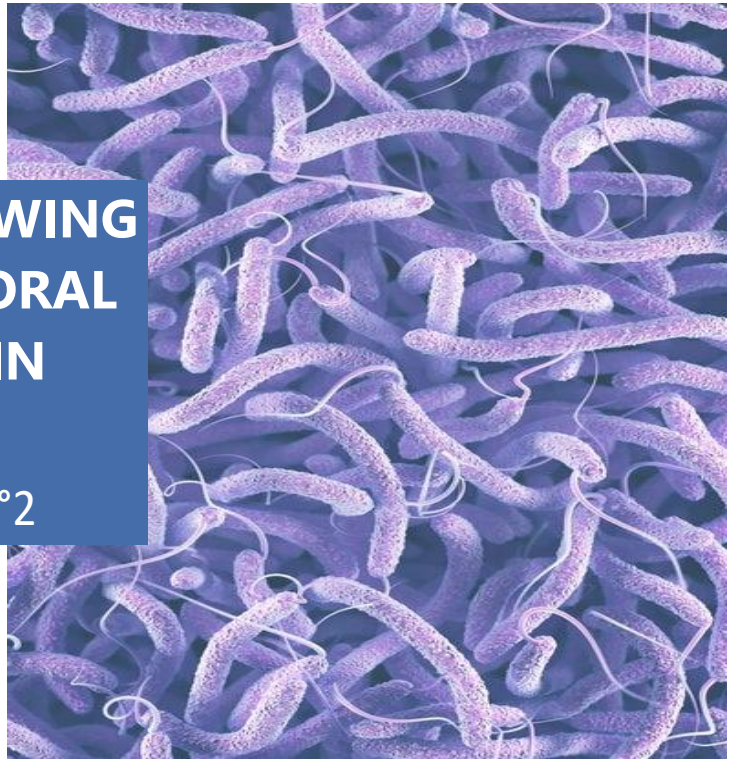
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*Period covered: November 12, 2022 to January 22, 2023*



On October 6<sup>th</sup> 2022, Lebanon recorded its first confirmed case of cholera since 1993. The number of the suspected cases gradually increased across all affected areas to reach 6,408 cases and 23 deaths by the end of the period covered by this report.

This executive summary provides an overview of the Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFIs) that were temporally associated to the Oral Cholera Vaccines (OCVs) available in Lebanon during Phases I and II of the national immunization campaign, in the period between November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. Within the scope of the multi-sectorial response to contain the cholera outbreak, the Lebanese National Pharmacovigilance Program (LNPP) was the main entity concerned with monitoring and evaluating AEFIs with OCVs during the campaign, in the aim of ensuring patient and medication safety.

The objective of this report is to document serious and non-serious AEFI with the OCV deployed during Phases I and II: Euvichol-Plus®.

A total of 38 case reports corresponding to 97 AEFIs were received following the administration of 1,025,000 doses of Euvichol-Plus® in Lebanon between November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. This is equivalent to a reporting rate of 0.037 case reports and 0.094 AEFIs per 1,000 doses administered. The majority of case reports were received through the 1787 hotline (60.5%), followed by the landline, (29.0%), then the KoboToolbox: AEFIs Software for Reporting (10.5%), and mostly originated from the Baalbeck-El Hermel governorate (36.9%).

The age groups of vaccine recipients who mostly reported AEFIs were between 2 and 11 years old and between 18 and 44 years old (34.2% each), with females reporting more than males (60.5 % vs.39.5%). Only 8 case reports (21.1%) were classified as serious as per the WHO seriousness classification criteria.

Most of the reported cases (73.7%), belonged to the “Gastrointestinal Disorders” System Organ Class with vomiting (34.2%) being the most reported AEFI.

The LNPVP at the Ministry of Public Health is the reference entity of reporting concerned with receiving reports related to AEFIs with OCVs. AEFIs associated with OCVs. In collaboration with its partners, the PV team continues to conduct constant monitoring for the safety of the vaccines. Reporting of any encountered AEFI is highly encouraged to contain the outbreak and to reduce the strain on the health system.