

Abstract

# Measles Outbreak-Khywan, Huth District, Amran Governorate, Yemen, March, 2017

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## Abstract

**Background:** On March 3, 2017, cases with fever and skin rash were reported in Khywan, Huth district, Amran by electronic disease early warning system (eDEWS) coordinator. A team from Y-FETP was sent to investigate the problem.

**Objective:** To confirm the existence of outbreak and recommend control measures.

**Methods:** We conducted active house to house- case search. Suspected case was any person with fever and skin rash at any age in Khywan area, Huth district, Amran governorate, from 5 February to 5 March 2017. Data analysis was performed by Epi Info version 7.2.

**Results:** Results 32 cases met the standard case definition, the index case was reported in 5 Feb. 2017, the outbreak continued till 5 March with the peak of cases in 3 March 2017 (6 cases). The percentage of females was 53%. The highest percent was among the age group 1-<5 years with the attack rate 21/1000 of population. The percent of non-vaccinated cases was 97%. Reasons for non-vaccination were: lack of outreach vaccination services (39%), absence of vaccine in the nearby health center (39%), and vaccination refusal (22%). All cases had fever and skin rash, 97% of cases had cough and conjunctivitis. About 13% of cases were admitted in Huth hospital due to pneumoniae as a complication of measles.

**Conclusions:** Existence of Measles outbreak in Khywan area, Huth district, Amran governorate was confirmed. Urgent measles immunization campaign with ongoing routine and outreach immunization services are recommended to increase vaccination coverage.

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