



# ADVERSE EVENTS FOLLOWING IMMUNIZATION WITH ORAL CHOLERA VACCINES IN LEBANON

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT N°3

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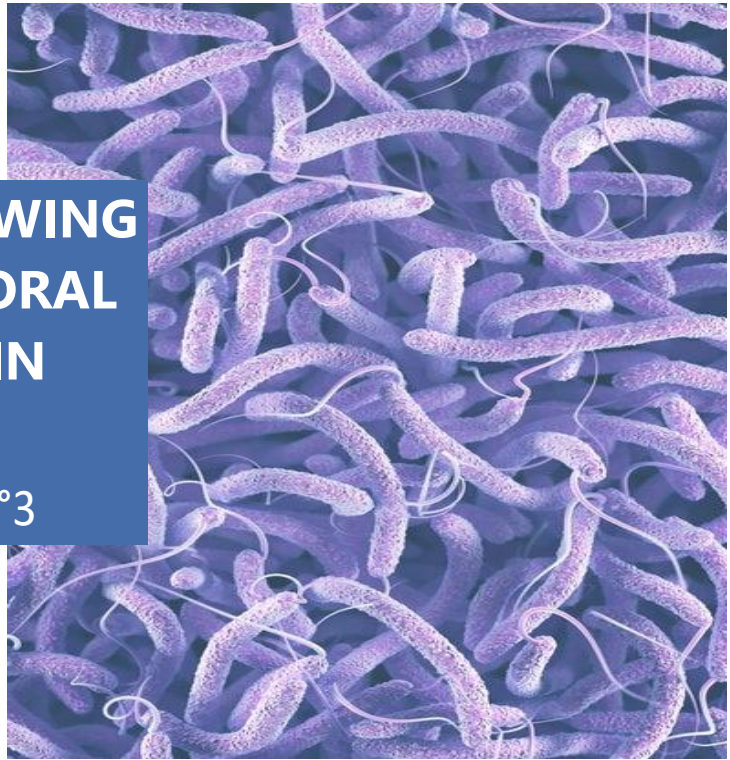
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*Period covered: November 12, 2022 to February 19, 2023*



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 6,543 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, II, and III of the national immunization campaign, in the period between November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Within the scope of the multi-sectorial response to contain the cholera outbreak, the Lebanese National Pharmacovigilance Program (LNPVP) 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, II, and III: Euvichol-Plus®.

A total of 47 case reports corresponding to 116 AEFIs were received following the administration of 1,151,800 doses of Euvichol-Plus® in Lebanon between November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This is equivalent to a reporting rate of 0.041 case reports and 0.101 AEFIs per 1,000 doses administered. The majority of case reports were received through the 1787 hotline (66.0%), followed by the landline, (25.5%), then the KoboToolbox: AEFIs Software for Reporting (8.5%), and mostly originated from the Bekaa governorate (40.4%).

The age groups of vaccine recipients who mostly reported AEFIs were between 2 and 11 years old (42.6%), with females reporting more than males (57.4 % vs.42.6%).

Only 9 case reports (19.1%) were classified as serious as per the WHO seriousness classification criteria.

Most of the reported cases (68.1%), belonged to the “Gastrointestinal Disorders” System Organ Class with fever (38.3%) being the most reported AEFI.

The LNPVP at the Ministry of Public Health is the reference entity of reporting concerned with 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.