

Data Protection Simulation: Polio Campaign Monitoring In Syria



Qatar Red Crescent Society works as a third-party monitor for a polio campaign in Syria. They are supported by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

- What are some of the risks, gaps and needs to support this? How will you safeguard the data workflows to protect the most vulnerable?
- What are some of the steps, roles, and decisions in this project?
- What is the minimal data set that can be shared and with who? Why?
- How was consent acquired, how is the data stored and transmitted?

The workflow is as follows:

- 1- Prepare forms on paper.
- 2- Prepare forms on automated system (DHIS2).
- 3- Monitor collects data from centres and communities.
- 4- The supervisor who is responsible for leading the monitors team in his area reports to the district supervisor.
- 5- District supervisor reports to governorate supervisor.
- 6- Governorate supervisor sends papers by technology available (mail, file sharing, mobile application, etc...).

After gathering papers

- 7- Staff in the Turkey office enter the data into the system (DHIS2).
- 8- Reporters analyse it and extract pre-defined reports to show the vaccine operation's indicators and share those reports with WHO and immunization Task force.
- 9- WHO and task force set a meeting to analyse reports shared by our side and compare them with a report from immunization task force.

Third-party monitoring is working on three main stages during the campaign:

- 1- Pre- Campaign (visits centres and check in centres, vaccine and vaccination team preparedness).
- 2- Intra-Campaign (during the campaign, monitors check the variolation process in centres and visit people in houses and markets to monitor the coverage of vaccine).
- 3- Post-Campaign (after the campaign, monitors visit people in houses and markets and collect data about the coverage of the campaign).

We usually visit vaccine centres one or two days before the campaign to check the centre's and team's preparation, and make sure that everything is going according to plan.

Also, we pick random people from markets and ask them if they know anything about the campaign and the vaccine and where they heard about them.

Background

In March 2016, in pre-campaign stage, an independent body for the besieged area of Homs, analysed the data and found something wrong with the vaccine vials. We sent pictures of the vials to WHO, and they decided to close the campaign until they have a new vaccine.

The importance of the pre-campaign stage isn't just to check the vaccine and vaccination team, it's also about gathering information from a targeted place, to measure people's knowledge about the campaign and

vaccine.

In August 2017 pre-campaign indicators showed a decrease of knowledge about the campaign. 40% of people didn't know about the campaign that was supposed to start the next day! Therefore the campaign was postponed for another week.

CREDIT

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