

Flash Update: Week 36 2020

- One case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) was reported this week, with date of onset on 24 July 2020. The affected child lives in an accessible village in Danyile district, Banadir region.
- This is the fourth cVDPV2 case to be reported in Somalia in 2020. The case is genetically linked to the existing cVDPV2 outbreak in the country.
- In total, 19* children with cVDPV have been identified across Somalia since the initial detection of the ongoing cVDPV2 and cVDPV3 outbreaks in late 2017.
- Three cVDPV2 positive environmental samples were reported this week. 18 cVDPV2 positive environmental samples have been reported so far in 2020.
- This ongoing isolation of poliovirus from both the environment and cases suggests continuing transmission of cVDPV2 among the population.
- Planning continues for the resumption of polio immunization campaigns, which were paused across the country in light of the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. From 20 to 23 September, a mOPV2 case response, which has been postponed since March 2020, will resume with COVID-19-preventative measures in place. This house to house campaign will take place in south and central zones of Somalia, reaching 1.65 million children.
- To support the campaign, UNICEF and WHO are working to share messages with local communities, including via social media, sound trucks, radio messages and outreach to religious, nomadic and pastoral leaders.

*The aVDPV1 case reported on 26th January 2020 in Lughaya District, Awdal region has not been reflected in Somalia's overall case count for the outbreak, to ensure consistency with global reporting of VDPV cases.



Mohamed Sharif Mohamed, Regional Polio Eradication Officer for Banadir, Somalia, shares a conversation with a mother bringing her child for polio and measles vaccinations during the recent integrated campaign, held from 30 August to 1 September for 400,000 under-fives. Mohamed has spent months supporting the COVID-19 response in addition to his polio duties.

Credit: WHO/Somalia

Relevant Links: [Somalia Weekly Surveillance](#) [Vaccine-derived polioviruses video](#)

[Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) [What is vaccine-derived poliovirus?](#)

Questions & Feedback: Email to cramondv@who.int or sykese@who.int

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