This Week

Polio this week as of 24 April 2018

- New on www.polioeradication.org: For World Immunization Week, we found out about a typical week in the life of a vaccine facilitator in Nigeria, and heard about the opportunities that the polio programme is opening up for women and their communities.
- In January, children in Raqqa city, Syria, received polio vaccines for the first time in two years as families return to their homes.
- The GPEI Post-Certification Strategy (PCS), which is aimed at ensuring the availability of core functions to sustain a polio-free world after global certification (such as outbreak response capacity, surveillance, immunization and containment), is now available to read on our website. The PCS will be presented to Member States at the World Health Assembly (WHA) in May.
- Recommendations and meeting outcomes from the recent Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on immunization (SAGE) meeting are now published. Among other things, the group reviewed and endorsed the main elements of the PCS, and reviewed proposed recommendations relating to global containment and immunization policies for countries hosting polio essential facilities (PEFs).
- Summary of newly-reported viruses this week: Pakistan: One new wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) positive environmental sample has been reported, in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. The Democratic Republic of the Congo: One case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) reported, from Haut Katanga province. Nigeria: Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) has been confirmed, following isolation of the virus from three environmental samples collected between 10 January and 20 March, from two environmental sites in Jigawa state. Somalia: Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus
type 3 (cVDPV3) has been confirmed, following isolation of the virus from four environmental samples collected between 8–22 March, from two environmental sites in Banadir province.

Wild poliovirus type 1 and Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total cases</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2018</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2017</th>
<th>Total in 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WPV</td>
<td>cVDPV</td>
<td>WPV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globally</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— in endemic countries</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— in non-endemic countries</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Case breakdown by country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2018</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2017</th>
<th>Total in 2017</th>
<th>Onset of paralysis of most recent case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WPV</td>
<td>cVDPV</td>
<td>WPV</td>
<td>cVDPV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>afghanistan</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>democratic republic of the congo</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pakistan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>syrian arab republic</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NA: Onset of paralysis in most recent case is prior to 2017. Figures exclude non-AFP sources. All cVDPV are type2. cVDPV definition: see document “Reporting and classification of vaccine-derived polioviruses” at [pdf]

Weekly country updates as of 24 April 2018

Afghanistan
No new cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) have been confirmed this week.

The total number of officially reported WPV1 cases in Afghanistan in 2018 is seven.

The most recent case (by date of onset) occurred in Ghaziabad district, Kunar province, with onset of paralysis on 3 March.

Supplementary immunization days held in April have concluded, during which vaccinators aimed to vaccinate children across 24 provinces using bOPV.

Read the latest polio update from Afghanistan to see information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

Pakistan

No new cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) have been confirmed this week.

The total number of officially reported WPV1 cases in Pakistan in 2018 is one.

The most recent case (by date of onset) occurred in Dukki district, Balochistan province, with onset of paralysis on 8 March.

One new WPV1 positive environmental sample has been reported this week, collected in Kohat district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, on 27 March.

Read the latest polio update from Pakistan to see information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

Nigeria

No new cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) were reported in the past week.

The total number of WPV1 cases for 2016 is four and no cases have been reported in 2017 or 2018.

The most recent case (by date of onset) was reported in Monguno Local Government Area, Borno, with onset on 21 August 2016.

Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (VDPV2) is confirmed in Nigeria, following sequencing results from an environmental sample collected on 20 March from an environmental site in Hadejia local government area, Jigawa state. No associated AFP cases with this virus have been detected; virus has been isolated only from environmental samples.

The sequence results from the isolates indicate a genetic linkage to previously detected VDPV2s from Mai Lolo Gabari site (collected on 10
January, and 23 February). The new isolate and the old ones are all classified as cVDPV, as they now meet the Global Polio Eradication Initiative guidelines for such a classification. The last VDPV2 case reported in Jigawa state was an iVDPV2, with date of onset of paralysis on 14 May 2016.

- Following notification of the initial isolates from January and February, the programme conducted enhanced vaccination activities using IPV in 13 high-risk wards (target population approximately 55,000 children).
- The country has conducted additional acute flaccid paralysis surveillance strengthening activities including enhanced active surveillance visits, and community sampling. The programme has also carried out extensive search for type 2 containing vaccines (tOPV/mOPV2) in the immediate area.
- The GPEI is working with Regional and country counterparts and partners to supporting the local public health authorities to conduct a field investigation and thorough risk assessment, and to discuss needs for possible immunization response.

**Lake Chad Basin**

- The detection of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) (Borno state, Nigeria in 2016) and circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) (Borno and Sokoto states in 2016) continue to pose a risk to the neighbouring countries of the Lake Chad basin.
- Emergency outbreak response efforts continue across the Lake Chad basin, together with activities to fill subnational surveillance gaps across the region.
- These activities include efforts to vaccinate children at markets, in internally displaced persons camps, and at international borders.
- Read the latest polio update from the [Lake Chad basin](https://www.polioeradication.org) to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

**Central Africa**

- One new case of circulating [vaccine-derived poliovirus](https://www.polioeradication.org) type 2 (cVDPV2) was reported in the past week in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The case was reported in Kikula district, Haut Katanga province, with onset on 19 February. This is the first reported case in Haut Katanga in this outbreak.
- The total number of officially reported cVDPV2 cases in the DRC in 2018 is now four.
• The Ministry of Health, supported by WHO and partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, remains fully committed to outbreak response in the affected provinces, including use of monovalent oral polio vaccine type 2 (mOPV2) across the country, in line with internationally-agreed outbreak response protocols.
• This week, supplementary immunization activities are going ahead in 34 health zones in the country.
• Surveillance and immunization activities are being strengthened in neighbouring countries.
• Read the latest polio update from the Democratic Republic of the Congo country page to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.
• Learn more about vaccine-derived polioviruses through this short animation or this ‘Coffee with Polio Experts’ video.

Horn of Africa

• A circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 3 (cVDPV3) has been confirmed in Somalia, following isolation of the virus from four environmental samples collected between 8–22 March, from two environmental sites in Banadir province.
• This follows confirmation of a circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in the Horn of Africa, with the virus isolated from environmental samples collected from Mogadishu and Nairobi, Kenya.
• Outbreak response to both strains is currently being implemented, in line with internationally-agreed guidelines. Three large-scale supplementary immunization activities (SIAs) have been implemented in Banadir, Lower Shabelle and Middle Shabelle regions, Somalia, with additional SIAs planned in the affected zones of the Horn of Africa at end-April and May. Special surveillance activities are being undertaken to determine the origin of the viral circulation.
• WHO and partners are continuing to support local public health authorities across the Horn of Africa in conducting field investigations and risk assessments.
• A potential regional response is now being evaluated, based on an ongoing risk assessment across the Horn of Africa. The exact scale and extent of the response is being finalized.
• Read our Somalia country page and Kenya country page to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.
• Learn more about vaccine-derived polioviruses through this short animation or this ‘Coffee with Polio Experts’ video.
The Middle East

- No new cases of circulating vaccine derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) were reported this week.
- The total number of officially reported cVDPV2 cases in Syria in 2017 remains 74. There are no cases reported in 2018.
- The most recent case (by date of onset) was reported in Boukamal district, with onset on 21 September 2017.
- Read the latest polio update from Syria to see information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.
- Learn more about vaccine-derived polioviruses through this short animation or this ‘Coffee with Polio Experts’ video.

Viewed using Just Read