**This Week**

**Polio this week as of 28 August 2018**

Summary of new viruses this week: Afghanistan – one new wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) case. Democratic Republic of the Congo – Based on positive contacts, two negative AFP index cases classified as circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2). Nigeria – three new cases of cVDPV2. Papua New Guinea – two new cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1). See country sections below for more details.

To assess if the 2016 trivalent–bivalent oral polio vaccine “switch” was successful, a group of researchers from Imperial College London, WHO and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation analysed stool and sewage samples from 112 countries collected in the first 15 months after the switch. Study results were published this week in The New England Journal of Medicine. [Read more](http://polioeradication.org/polio-today/polio-now/this-week/).

**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>15</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— in endemic countries</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— in non-endemic countries</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>24</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>WPV</th>
<th>cVDPV</th>
<th>WPV</th>
<th>cVDPV</th>
<th>WPV</th>
<th>cVDPV</th>
<th>Onset of paralysis of most recent case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>afghanistan</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17- Jul-2018</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>democratic republic of the congo</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>22- Jul-2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nigeria</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>27- Jul-2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>18- May-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>papua new guinea</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8- Jul-2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10- Jul-2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>syrian arab republic</td>
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<td>39</td>
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<td>74</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>21- Sep-2017</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NA: Onset of paralysis in most recent case is prior to 2017. Figures exclude non-AFP sources. In 2018, cVDPV includes all three serotypes 1, 2 and 3.

For Somalia: 1 cVDPV2 and cVDPV3 isolated from one AFP case.

cVDPV definition: see document “Reporting and classification of vaccine-derived polioviruses” at [pdf].

**Weekly country updates as of 28 August 2018**

**Afghanistan**
One new case of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) was reported this week from Agam district, Nangahar province, with date of onset of paralysis 17 July.
The total number of cases reported in Afghanistan in 2018 is 12. During the August immunization campaign, almost ten million children were visited by vaccination teams to protect them from the virus.
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) were reported this week.
The total number of WPV1 cases reported in Pakistan in 2018 is three.
The latest case, from Dukki district, Balochistan province, had onset of paralysis on 18 May.
Read the latest polio update from Pakistan to see information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

Nigeria

Three new circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) cases were reported this week: one each from Miga Local Government Area (LGA), Jigawa state (date of onset 27 June); Babura LGA, Jigawa state (date of onset 24 July); and Baure LGA, Katsina state (date of onset 27 July).
No new cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) were reported in the past week. The most recently-detected WPV1 case, from Borno state, had onset of paralysis on 21 August 2016.
The country continues to be affected by two separate cVDPV2 outbreaks, the first centered in Jigawa state, and the second in Sokoto state.
In response to cVDPV2 detection, the country continues to conduct acute flaccid paralysis surveillance strengthening activities including enhanced active surveillance visits and community sampling. The programme has also carried out an extensive search
for type 2 containing vaccines (tOPV/mOPV2) in the areas surrounding where the virus is detected. The GPEI is working with regional and country counterparts and partners to support an outbreak response and plan the October sub-national immunization activity.

At the same time, outbreak response to WPV1 continues, including efforts to address surveillance and immunity gaps in parts of Borno state. Read our Nigeria country page to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

**Lake Chad Basin**

The detection of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) and circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in Nigeria 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 in the region.

These include efforts to vaccinate children at markets, in internally displaced persons and refugee camps, and at international borders.

Preparations continue for a cross-border synchronized immunization activity in October.

**Central Africa**

In Democratic Republic of the Congo, based on two positive contacts, two negative index AFP cases classified as circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2). Both index cases were reported from Yamaluka district, Mongala province (dates of onset 12 and 22 July, respectively). The total number of cases detected in the country in 2018 is now 13.

The country is affected by three separate strains of cVDPV2, in the provinces of Mongola, Maniema and Haut Lomami/Tanganika/Haut Katanga/Ituri.

In response to recent geographic spread of one of the strains, including to Ituri province close to the border with Uganda,
provincial governors on 26 July convened an urgent meeting and signed the ‘Kinshasa Declaration for Polio Eradication’. The high-level meeting was convened by HE the Minister of Health, as well as the WHO Director-General and the Regional Director for Africa. Provincial governors committed to providing the necessary oversight, accountability and resources needed to urgently improve the quality of the outbreak response being implemented across the country. Outbreak response since cVDPV was first confirmed in 2017 has been marred by operational challenges, as too many children continue to remain un- or under-vaccinated. This level of oversight can help ensure that operational deficits are rapidly identified and addressed. The polio outbreak response is being conducted simultaneously to an ongoing Ebola outbreak affecting North Kivu province, in the east of the country (close to provinces affected by cVDPV2). As in the past, the polio teams are coordinating closely with the broader humanitarian emergency network, to ensure both outbreaks are addressed in a coordinated manner (as was the case during the recent Ebola outbreak in Equateur province, which was successfully stopped). Partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative will continue to support authorities across the country, to ensure that this new level of commitment rapidly translates into operational improvements on the ground. Read our 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

The Horn of Africa is currently affected by separate outbreaks of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) and type 3(cVDPV3), reporting both cases and environmental positives. No new cases were reported this week. The last case of cVDPV2, from Daynile district, Banadir province, Somalia, had onset of paralysis on 10 July. Somalia has reported a total of five cases in 2018: Two cVDPV2, two cVDPV3 and one cVDPV2&3.
cVDPV2 has also been detected during 2018 in one environmental sample in Kenya. Outbreak response to both virus types is currently being implemented in line with internationally-agreed guidelines. Large-scale supplementary immunization activities (SIAs) have been implemented in Banadir, Lower Shabelle and Middle Shabelle regions, Somalia, with additional SIAs planned or carried out in the affected zones of the Horn of Africa. Special surveillance activities are being undertaken to determine the origin of the viral circulation. WHO and partners continue to support local public health authorities across the Horn of Africa in conducting field investigations and risk assessments. 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.

**Papua New Guinea**

Two new cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) were reported this week, from Madang (date of onset 11 July) and Eastern Highland (date of onset 26 July) provinces. The total number of cases in the country in 2018 is now six (two from Eastern Highland, one from Enga, one from Madang and two from Morobe provinces). Papua New Guinea officially launched the outbreak response campaign on 16 July in Morobe, Madang and Eastern Highlands provinces. Three more campaigns are planned for late August, September and October. With confirmation of recent cases in Eastern Highland and Enga province, the geographic extent of the outbreak response is currently being reviewed and will be expanded as necessary. Intensified surveillance measures to improve detection of acute flaccid paralysis and poliovirus are being implemented across the country, with on-the-ground training for provincial and district staff being provided by NDOH and WHO. Read our Papua New Guinea country page to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.
The Middle East

No new cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) were reported in the past week in Syria. 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.