This Week

Polio this week as of 15 May 2019

- On 9 May 2019, the World Health Organization received notification of the detection of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) from an environmental sample, collected on 20 April, in Seestan and Balochistan province, Iran. The virus collected is an environmental sample only, and no associated cases of paralysis have been detected. Genetic sequencing confirmed it is linked to WPV1 circulating in Karachi, Pakistan. See country-specific sections below for more information.

- On 21 May 2019, taking advantage of the presence of major Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) stakeholders attending the World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva, the GPEI is hosting an informal reception marking the launch of its new Polio Endgame Strategy 2019–2023: To Succeed by 2023 – Reaching Every Last Child for a Polio–Free World. Delegates who will be in Geneva are invited. Please RSVP here.

- Summary of new viruses this week: Pakistan—four wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) cases and four WPV1-positive environmental samples; Iran—one WPV1-positive environmental sample. See country sections below for more details.

Wild poliovirus type 1 and Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total cases</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2019 WPV</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2018 WPV</th>
<th>Total in 2018 WPV</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2019 cVDPV</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2018 cVDPV</th>
<th>Total in 2018 cVDPV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Globally</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— in endemic countries</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— in non-endemic countries</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Case breakdown by country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2019 WPV</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2018 WPV</th>
<th>Total in 2018 WPV</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2019 cVDPV</th>
<th>Year-to-date 2018 cVDPV</th>
<th>Total in 2018 cVDPV</th>
<th>Onset of paralysis of most recent case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>afghanistan</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>31 Apr-2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>democratic republic of the congo</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8 Feb-2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countries</td>
<td>Year-to-date 2019</td>
<td>Year-to-date 2018</td>
<td>Total in 2018</td>
<td>Onset of paralysis of most recent case</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WPV cVDPV WPV cVDPV WPV cVDPV WPV cVDPV</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>indonesia</td>
<td>0 0 0 0</td>
<td>0 0 0 1</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>27-Nov-2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mozambique</td>
<td>0 0 0 0</td>
<td>0 0 0 1</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>21-Oct-2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>niger</td>
<td>0 0 0 0</td>
<td>0 0 0 10</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>5-Dec-2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nigeria</td>
<td>0 8 0 1</td>
<td>0 0 34</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>29-Mar-2019</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pakistan</td>
<td>15 0 3 0</td>
<td>12 0</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>26-Apr-2019</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>papua new guinea</td>
<td>0 0 0 1</td>
<td>0 0 26</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>18-Oct-2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>somalia</td>
<td>0 1 0 2</td>
<td>0 0 12</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>15-Mar-2019</td>
<td></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 15 May 2019**

**Afghanistan**

- No wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) cases have been reported in the past week. There are seven WPV1 cases reported in 2019 from Afghanistan. The total number of WPV1 cases for 2018 remains 21.
- Read the latest polio update from Afghanistan to see information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

**Pakistan**

- Four wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) cases have been confirmed: two from Bannu district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province; one from North Waziristan district in KPTD; and one from Larkana District in Sindh province. The cases have onset of paralysis on 18, 26, 22, and 17 April 2019, respectively.
- Four WPV1-positive environmental samples were reported in the past week: one from Landhi in Karachi district, Sindh province; one each from Killa Abdullah and Quetta districts in Balochistan.
- Read the latest polio update from [Pakistan](#) to see information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

**Iran**

- There is a confirmed detection of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1)-positive environmental sample in Seestan and Balochistan province. The sample was collected on 22 April 2019. The virus was detected in the environmental sample only and genetic sequencing confirms it is related to WPV1 circulating in Karachi, Pakistan.
- The Ministry of Health and local health authorities are undertaking a detailed investigation and the partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) are on standby to provide support as required. An immediate risk assessment suggests that this event has limited public health implications, given Iran’s very high levels of routine immunization coverage and strong disease surveillance. However, this event further underlines the risk of international spread of WPV1 from Pakistan/Afghanistan.
- Read our [Iran](#) country page for more information on WHO risk assessment and advise.

**Nigeria**

- No cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 have been reported in the past week. There are seven cVDPV2 cases reported in 2019 so far. The total number of cVDPV2 cases in 2018 remains 34.
- No cVDPV2-positive environmental sample were reported this week.
- No cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) has been reported in the country since the one detected from Borno State with a date of onset of paralysis on 21 August 2016.
- Recent confirmation of spread of one of the cVDPV2 outbreaks, both within Nigeria and internationally, underscores the urgent need to fill remaining vaccination gaps in the ongoing outbreak response, and to optimize the geographic extent and operational quality of mOPV2 response.
- 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**

- No case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) has been reported in the past week. One cVDPV2 was isolated from a healthy community contact in Magaria, Zinder State. The sample was collected on 16 March 2019.
- The total number of cVDPV2 cases in 2018 reported in Niger in 2018 is ten. The outbreak is genetically-linked to the cVDPV2 outbreak originating in Jigawa, Nigeria. Virus was isolated from children with acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) from Zinder region, located in the south of Niger and on the border with Nigeria, with dates of onset of paralysis ranging from 18 July through 5 December 2018.
provinces at the international borders with Nigeria are being reinforced.

- Active case finding for additional AFP cases is continuing, and additional surveillance measures such as increasing the frequency and extent of environmental surveillance and community sampling of healthy individuals is being expanded.

**Central Africa**

- No case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) has been reported this week in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). So far, one cVDPV case has been reported in DRC in 2019. The total number of cVDPV2 cases reported in 2018 is 20.
- DRC is affected now by four separate cVDPV2 outbreaks, in the provinces of Haut Katanga; Mongala; Haut Lomami/Tanganika/Haut Katanga/Ituri and Kasai.
- 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**

- No case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) has been reported this week. So far, one cVDPV2 case has been reported in Somalia in 2019.
- The Horn of Africa is currently affected by separate outbreaks of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) and type 3 (cVDPV3), reporting both AFP cases and environmental positive samples.
- Somalia has reported a total of 13 cVDPV cases (six type 2, six type 3 and one coinfection of both type 2 and type 3) since the beginning of the outbreaks.
- The most recent cVDPV3 virus was from an AFP case from Runingod district, Middle Shabelle province with an onset date of paralysis on 7 September 2018.
- Circulating VDPV2 has also been detected during 2018 in one environmental sample in Kenya collected on 21 March 2018.
- 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.
- 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**

and New Zealand and other partners and donors in responding to the polio outbreak.

- No new cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) were reported this week. The total number of cases in 2018 remains 26.
- The most recent cVDPV1 virus was isolated from an environmental sample collected in the National Capital district on 6 November 2018.
- Emergency Operation Centres are established and operational at the national level and in all affected provinces; environmental surveillance is functional in five sites in two major cities.
- Three Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIAs) of expanding scope have taken place since late July, from three provinces to nine, to nationwide. The most recent was aimed at children under the age of 15, due to large numbers of poorly-immunized older children.
- Planning is underway for the next steps of the outbreak response, focusing on both vaccination and surveillance for polioviruses.
- Read our Papua New Guinea country page to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

**Mozambique**

- No case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) outbreak has been reported this week. The total number of cases in 2018 remains 1.
- In addition to the confirmed case, the same virus was also isolated from two healthy community contacts, reported on 10 and 17 December 2018.
- The GPEI and partners are working with country counterparts to support the local public health authorities in conducting a field investigation (clinical, epidemiological and immunological) and thorough risk assessment to discuss planning and implementation of immunization and outbreak response.
- In January 2017, a single VDPV2 virus had been isolated from a 5-year old boy with AFP, also from Zambézia province (Mopeia district). Outbreak response was conducted in the first half of 2017 with monovalent oral polio vaccine type 2 (mOPV2).
- Read our Mozambique country page to see information on cases, surveillance and response to the developing outbreak.

**Indonesia**

- In total, three genetically-linked circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) isolates were detected from Papua province: a cVDPV1 from an acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) case, with onset of paralysis on 27 November 2018, and two cVDPV1 isolates from healthy community contacts, collected on 24 January and 13 February 2019. This outbreak is not linked to the cVDPV1 currently affecting neighbouring Papua New Guinea.
- The GPEI and partners are working with country counterparts to support the local public health authorities in conducting a field investigation (clinical, epidemiological and immunological) and thorough risk assessment to discuss planning and implementation of immunization and outbreak response.
- Learn more about vaccine-derived polioviruses through this short