

# Rotary Zones 26 & 27

PolioPlus Weekly Update



26 April, 2023

Note: This update is going out to all Zone 26 & 27 DG's, DGE's, DGN's, District Foundation Chairs, District PolioPlus Chairs, Senior Leaders and others who have requested to be on the mailing list 🙂. However, If you wish to no longer receive these updates, please let me know and I'll remove you from the list.

## **Greetings Polio Warriors:**

• WILD POLIO VIRUS, TYPE 1 (WPV1) - Happy to once again report no new cases this week anywhere in the world.

**SIXTY-FIVE** - The number of days since the last case of WPV1 occurred in Pakistan (February 20th, 2023).

TWO HUNDRED & THIRTY-NINE — (6 MONTHS +) The number of days since the last case of WPV1 occurred in Afghanistan (August 29th, 2022).
TWO HUNDRED & FIFTY-NINE — (6 MONTHS +) The number of days since the last case of WPV1 occurred in Mozambique (August 10th, 2022).
ONE - The number of WPV1 cases reported for the year 2023 (1 in Pakistan)
THIRTY - The total number of WPV1 cases that occurred in 2022 (2 in Afghanistan, 8 in Mozambique and 20 in Pakistan).

**SIX** - The total number of WPV1 cases that occurred in **2021** (1 in Pakistan, 1 in Malawi and 4 in Afghanistan).

**ONE HUNDRED & FORTY -** Total number of WPV1 cases that occurred in 2020.

I'm also happy to report **ZERO Positive Environmental Samples last week, So the 2023 total remains at 21 Positive Wild Samples** (18 in Afghanistan and 3 in Pakistan). The total count of Positive Wild Samples for **2022 also remains at 63** (41 in Pakistan and 22 in Afghanistan).

• **CIRCULATING VACCINE-DERIVED POLIO** - On our other battlefront in the war on polio, **the circulating Vaccine-Derived Polio**, there were **40 cases of cVDP** reported this last week compared to only 3 cases the week before. 36 cases occurred in DR Congo (15 Type 1's and 21 Type 2's), however 28 of those were collected in 2022, but are only now being reported. The remaining 8 were collected in 2023. The other 4 cases reported were Type 1's collected in Madagascar in 2023. So this **brings the 2023 year's total to 61.** The **2022 case total also increases to 857.** 

Ironically, there were **ZERO Positive Vaccine Derived Environmental Samples** (ES) reported this last week, so the total for 2023 so far remains 47. The 2022 count also remains at 439.

• **PAKISTANI POLIO WORKERS THINK "OUTSIDE THE BOX"** - See what Pakistan is doing to reach those not vaccinated and who may be, without knowing it, spreading the virus. This example of "thinking outside the box" is the innovative initiative of the **Nomads Immunization Team**.

The task is to find nomadic settlements and vaccinate the children against **polio** and other vaccine-preventable diseases.

Since nomads are highly mobile, children in these communities are missed during routine vaccination campaigns or even at transit vaccination sites because they may not be passing through formal routes. This means their immunity remains weak, they are vulnerable to disease and can potentially transmit poliovirus as they travel across country and district borders.

One of the workers searching for these nomads said, "When I met them, I saw how different their lifestyle was since they are constantly on the move and far from health facilities. They want to protect their children from diseases too, so they are happy to see us. They tell us that it is the first time that vaccinators have come to their tents to vaccinate their children."

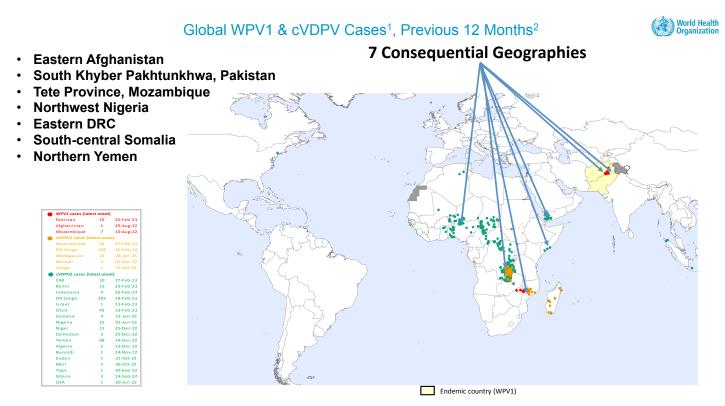
To learn more go to the link below to read this first-hand account and watch the accompanying video of what it meas to be part of the Nomads Immunization Team. <u>https://polioeradication.org/news-post/vaccination-on-wheels-for-nomadic-children/</u>

• THE WHO WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY (WHA) IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE FROM 21 TO 30 MAY, 2023. Among other things, deliberations by member states will focus on the global effort to eradicate polio. To this effect, the Secretariat has prepared two reports which will facilitate Member State discussions on polio eradication and on polio transition planning and postcertification. While both reports are detailed and lengthy, there are some interesting facts embedded in the reports. For example, identifying and reaching all remaining zero-dose children in the most consequential geographies, the seven subnational geographies affected by complex humanitarian emergencies, will be key to achieving that goal. They are depicted in the map below...and looking at that reminds me of the **3 C's**, a metaphor, if you will, of those "complex humanitarian emergencies in the most consequential geographies" mentioned above. For example:

- **Covid-19** Which forced us to cease vaccinations for 5 months everywhere, resulting in a big increase in cases in 2020, and still hampers us in our vaccination efforts today.
- **Conflict** Conflicts have long been barring us from being able to vaccinate all the children due to lack of access...ie. NorthernYemen, Afghanistan, Northwest Nigeria, Pakistan, Eastern DRC, South-Central Somalia, etc.
- **Climate** Last year's flood conditions in Pakistan, with 1/3 of the country underwater, that is still hampering our workers from getting the vaccines to the children. And the recent record rains in Mozambique last February brought on by the slow moving Cyclone Freddy.

Although there is much more information in these two documents about what needs to be done to beat this disease, I point out these "**3 C's**" to illustrate what we've have accomplished despite all of these "roadblocks" that nature and man has thrown in front of us. We will succeed.

And full disclosure here...I don't remember if I came up with the 3 C's or if I "R&D'd" it (Ripped off and Duplicated from someone else - and if it was you, let me know (2)). But I think it illustrates the tremendous work we have accomplished, Well done Rotarians and GPEI Partners!!!



<sup>1</sup>Excludes viruses detected from environmental surveillance; <sup>2</sup>Onset of paralysis: 19 Apr. 2022 to 18 Apr. 2023

Data in WHO HQ as of 18 Apr. 2023

• **THAT'S IT FOR THIS WEEK FOLKS.** Hang in there and, as always, continue to keep Ukraine in your thoughts, along with those affected by polio.

Bob and Greg Your Big West "End Polio Now" Coordinators

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#### Poliovirus Weekly Update 26 APRIL, 2023, World Health Organization

You will see below, that the number of wild polio cases for 2023 as of April 26th is 1. You will also see that the 2022 count remains at 30 (2 in Afghanistan, 20 in Pakistan and 8 in Mozambique).

The total number of wild polio cases in **2021** were **6** (1 in Pakistan, 1 in Malawi and 4 in Afghanistan).

The total number of wild polio cases in **2020** were **140** (84 in Pakistan and 56 in Afghanistan).

The total number of wild polio cases in **2019** were **176** (147 in Pakistan and 29 in Afghanistan).

Note: Polio "Acronyms". For a complete list go to <u>https://polioeradication.org/acronyms/</u> *AFP = Acute Flaccid Paralysis cVDPV = Circulating Vaccine Derived Poliovirus (a 1 or 2 behind it denotes the polio type...ie cVDPV2) nOPV2 = novel Oral Polio Vaccine Type 2 WPV1 = Wild Poliovirus, Type 1 ES = Positive Environmental Samples*  New WPV1 & cVDPV cases & positive ES samples reported last week

New wild poliovirus isolates (WPV1) reported last week: Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases: 0 Positive Environmental Samples (ES): 0

New circulating Vaccine Derived Poliovirus (cVDPV) isolates reported last week: Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases: 40 Positive Environmental Samples (ES): 0

## Reported WPV1 and cVDPV cases as of 26th of April, 2023

Reported Wild poliovirus (WPV) cases

- Total global WPV1 cases in 2023: 1 (Compared to 1 for the same period in 2022)
- Total global WPV1 cases in 2022: 30
- Total global WPV1 cases in 2021: 6
- Total global WPV1 cases in 2020: 140
- Total global WPV1 cases in 2019: 176

#### Reported Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV) cases

- Total global cVDPV cases in 2023: 61 (Compared to 52 for the same period in 2022)
- Total global cVDPV cases in 2022: 857
- Total global cVDPV cases in 2021: 698
- Total global cVDPV cases in 2020: 1,113

Summary of new WPV and cVDPV reported last week (AFP cases and ES positives) by country. For complete details on individual countries, go to <a href="https://polioeradication.org/polio-today/polioenaw/this-week/">https://polioenaw/this-week/</a>

For more extensive information on endemic and outbreak countries, go to <u>https://polioeradication.org/where-we-work/polio-outbreak-countries/</u>

- **DR Congo:** 15 cVDPV1 cases and 21 cVDPV2 cases
- Madagascar: four cVDPV1 cases