A close-up of a card

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**Join us on the “last mile” to end polio!!**

***End Polio Now Coordinators/Leaders: Mike Crosby & Marny Eulberg***

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**Almost weekly polio update……….. January 26, 2024**

***Note: no new cases and no positive environmental samples have YET been reported from 2024!!***

**Continued generally good news—no new cases of wild poliovirus caused paralysis reported this week, *but 9* positive environmental samples for WPV type 1 (7 in Afghanistan & 3 in Pakistan)—the risk is still out there for unvaccinated/undervaccinated!**

Wild Poliovirus Cases reported this week: None

Most recent wild poliovirus cases: Afghanistan: 09/04/23 Pakistan: 10/24/23

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Human cases confirmed** | As of 1/22/24 | Total | Total | Total | Total |
|  | **2024** | **2023\*** | **2022** | **2021** | **2020** |
| **WPV (Wild Poliovirus)** | 0 | 12 | 30 | 6 | 140 |
| **WPV--Afghanistan** | 0 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 56 |
| **WPV-Pakistan** | 0 | 6 | 20 | 1 | 84 |
| **WPV- Other countries** | 0 | 0 | 8 | 1 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Variant (circulating vaccine derived -cVDPV polioviruses** | 0 | 471 (657 at same time in 2022) | 878 | 699 | 1117 |

\*some cases with onset of paralysis in 2023 still likely to be confirmed and reported.

***Virus detected from other sources (environmental) this week (but all collected in 2023, so have been added to 2023 numbers). In { }= year-to-date totals for 2023***

***Wild poliovirus= 9; {185} cVDPV (variant) Types 1,2,3= 14; {355}* Variant poliovirus caused 3 cases of polio paralysis reported this week in 3 countries-- so far, all cases are from 2023.** (1 in DR Congo, 1 in Indonesia, and 1 in Zimbabwe)



Rick Barry signed basketballs **still** available!

***Limited edition Rick Barry signed basketballs are available through June, up to 500 balls total, for your District or club to purchase and use for a fundraiser for polio. Contact*** [***mikePolioPlus@outlook.com***](mailto:mikePolioPlus@outlook.com) ***for questions or ordering info.***

**Media News: (from Reg Ling’s report this week;**

News items continue on the polio outbreak in Indonesia. Preliminary investigations indicate that the virus might have been circulating undetected, with three cases found between October 2022 and February 2023. Among the afflicted children, 9 were asymptomatic, while 2 showed clinical symptoms requiring intensive care. (Note: these were all cVDPV cases). The resurgence of the disease is attributed to the high mobility of the population and disruptions to immunization programs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. A joint study by the University of Sydney and Universitas Indonesia highlighted a significant decline in health services, including vaccine access, during the pandemic. This disruption led to many children missing out on timely vaccinations.

Following the killings of police guards in Pakistan, more attention is being put on the disturbing and consistent pattern of violence against those working to eradicate polio from the country. Since 2012, a total of 109 people have been killed in polio-related incidents, with 162 individuals, including policemen, health workers and civilians, suffering injuries during this period. These attacks inflict harm on those directly involved in the eradication efforts but also hinder the progress made in eliminating the disease and tarnish the reputation of the country on the global stage. There is an urgent need for enhanced security and to prioritize the safety of polio workers. Education campaigns must be intensified to dispel myths surrounding polio vaccination and emphasize the importance of immunization to safeguard the health of children.

*Note: This update is going out to those on Bob Roger’s previous list and all Zones 2627 DGs and DPPCs. Let me know if you no longer wish to receive these updates or if you have others that should be added. Email me:* [*marnyeul@me.com*](mailto:marnyeul@me.com)

*For those of you that send out copies or use this newsletter as a template for sending info to your Polio Warriors, I have added attachments in common formats to this email message.*