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……….. March 15, 2024**

***Still no new wild poliovirus cases have YET been reported from 2024 and no new positive environmental samples.***  ***But this week, 5 new variant poliovirus cases—one from 2024.***

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 3/12/24 | Total | Total | Total | Total |
|  | **2024** | **2023\*** | **2022** | **2021** | **2020** |
| **WPV (Wild Poliovirus)** | 0 (0 at same time in 2023) | 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** | 4 (10 at same time in 2023) | 520 | 878 | 699 | 1117 |

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

***Polioviruses reported from other sources (environmental) this week, and in brackets{} are the total reported from 2023.***

***Wild poliovirus= 0 {187} cVDPV (variant) Types 1,2,3= 6; {408}***

**This week, reports of 1 new variant poliovirus caused polio paralysis in one country, Nigeria—and 4 more, added to the 2023 totals, were from Mali (1) and Yemen (3).**

***Monthly Peer-to-peer Zoom meeting Thursday March 28 at 4 PM Pacific Time. The correct current link to the Zoom meeting is:***

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.  
Monthly:[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZIqd-usqjIqE9N70gz38cIX2w9Zl\_9RM5if/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGuqTsoHtCcsBCARpwAB4iga-jwiFhfj\_pzy0\_iGXMLYSrOZPUbCL5ASer9](https://mailstat.us/tr/t/2z1uxzulr5u4ob5/1/https:/us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZIqd-usqjIqE9N70gz38cIX2w9Zl_9RM5if/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGuqTsoHtCcsBCARpwAB4iga-jwiFhfj_pzy0_iGXMLYSrOZPUbCL5ASer9)  
Join Zoom Meeting  
[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86702449097?pwd=SFVibTNwb0hKZHlIdTduNWJOREM2UT09**](https://mailstat.us/tr/t/2z1uxzulr5u4ob5/2/https:/us02web.zoom.us/j/86702449097?pwd=SFVibTNwb0hKZHlIdTduNWJOREM2UT09)  
Meeting ID: **867 0244 9097**  
Passcode: **85718**

**Mark your calendars—dates for upcoming P2P Polio Meetings are Thursdays at 4 PM Pacific (5 PM Mountain) on** April 25, May 16 (one week early because of International Convention), and June 27.

**HEADLINES**

* Polio survivor and eradication advocate, Paul Alexander has passed away at the age of 78, after living in an iron lung for over 70 years. Paul contracted polio in 1952 when he was six and the disease left him unable to breathe independently leading to his placement in an iron lung. Despite his physical constraints, Paul obtained a law degree, wrote a memoir, and was a strong advocate for polio eradication.  Note: I believe Paul was the last person in the U.S still using an iron lung.
* On the 8thof March, the polio program marked International Women’s Day through various activities honoring the passion and courage of all the women who have committed their lives to ending polio. Here are some highlights of the day:
  + - [In this piece](https://polioeradication.org/news-post/investments-in-women-investments-in-health/), female polio trailblazers share their stories on how they are driving change at every level.
    - The Female Mobiliser Vaccinator (FMV) programme supported by UNICEF and partners continues to play a critical role in efforts to reach every child and end polio in the country. [Read more](https://polioeradication.org/news-post/women-on-the-frontlines-of-polio-eradication-in-afghanistan-building-trust-and-reaching-children-with-lifesaving-vaccines/)…
    - Amal Jama, a coordinator for the polio response in Sudan [shared an important message](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Hy6aNfGg-uvwerDZwF-BTBFW5wwnR68y/view) about why women must share and collaborate with each other.
* Sudan’s Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) will launch a polio vaccination campaign in April 2024 in response to a new emergence of variant poliovirus type 2 reported in January 2024. It was detected in six wastewater samples collected from September 2023 to January 2024 in the Port Sudan locality, Red Sea State. [Read more](https://www.emro.who.int/media/news/sudan-to-respond-to-new-emergence-of-variant-poliovirus-in-red-sea-state.html)…

*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.*