



# Rotary Zones 26 & 27

## PolioPlus Weekly Update

22 March, 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) - Unfortunately, the one case that was mentioned in last week's newsletter, but not confirmed at that time, has finally been confirmed. A 3 year old in Bannu, located in the Southwest corner of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan, contracted the disease with the onset of paralysis occurring on February 20, 2023.** Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is the same general area where all 20 of Pakistan's wild polio cases from last year occurred. This is the first case worldwide of WPV1 this year, with the last case having occurred in Pakistan on September 15, 2022.

A risk analysis is currently being implemented, including tracing the origins of the infection and help identify missed areas or populations, and to take corrective action where needed. In an immediate response to the polio case, a house-to-house vaccination campaign has already occurred in Batkhela and adjoining areas. Six union-councils were part of the two-day activity from 21-22 March, where children under five years of age were vaccinated against polio.

For those wishing a more detailed report on this case and the situation in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa area, please read the attached pdf entitled "Reactive" we received from our staff in Evanston.

The numbers below have been adjusted accordingly.

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

**TWO HUNDRED & FOUR – (6 MONTHS+)** The number of days since the last case of WPV1 occurred in Afghanistan (August 29th, 2022).

**TWO HUNDRED & TWENTY-FOUR – (6 MONTHS +)** The number of days since the last case of WPV1 occurred in Mozambique (August 10th, 2022).

**FOUR HUNDRED & EIGHTY-EIGHT – (ONE YEAR +)** - The number of days since the last case of WPV1 occurred in Malawi (November 19th, 2021).

**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**.

There were also **4 WPV1 Positive Environmental Samples** reported this last week from the Nangarhar and Kunar provinces of Afghanistan. **So the 2023 total increases to 16 Positive Wild Samples to date (13 in Afghanistan and 3 in Pakistan).** The total count of Positive Wild Environmental Samples for **2022** remains at **63 (41 in Pakistan and 22 in Afghanistan)**

- **CIRCULATING VACCINE-DERIVED POLIO** - On our other battlefield in the war on polio, the circulating Vaccine-Derived Polio, there were **6 cases of cVDP** reported this last week compared to 11 total cases the week before. 5 were from DR Congo, 2 Type 1's and 3 Type 2's. However they all occurred in **2022, bringing that year to date case totals to 791.** The remaining case was a Type 2 case occurring in Indonesia in **2023, bringing this year's total to 14.**

There were also **12 Positive Vaccine Derived Environmental Samples (ES)** reported, all collected in 2023, bringing **total number of Positive Vaccine Derived Environmental Samples (ES) to 24.** The 2022 numbers remain the same with the year to date total being 437.

- **IN A RECENT EMAIL, END POLIO NOW COORDINATOR FOR REGION 20/21 DEREK ROTHWELL ASKED AIDAN O'LEARY, WHO'S DIRECTOR FOR POLIO THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:** *Dear Aidan, the positive progress in the eradication of Polio has resulted in a focus on the question when would eradication be declared. I've spoken to my colleague Dr Keith Paver and not knowing the answer he suggested I ask you. We think that the recent WPV1 case will have to reset the countdown to eradication clock. Thank you, Derek.*

Aidan's Response, though lengthy, I believe is an important narrative for all of us to read. It follows here:

*Good morning Derek,*

*Many thanks for your email and for reaching out. It's a good question and indeed a timely one.*

*The Global Commission for the Certification of the Eradication of Poliomyelitis (GCC) is the independent global expert body which will eventually verify and [certify global polio eradication](#). The GCC recently reviewed the WPV1 eradication certification criteria and basically concluded that given traditional AFP surveillance indicators in countries such as Pakistan and Afghanistan are supplemented by widespread environmental surveillance and strengthened genetic sequencing, certification may be feasible before the previously-required three years without detection of wild poliovirus from any source. Towards this end, the GCC has committed to meeting twice yearly include deep-dives of the endemic countries to evaluate the programme and the quality of surveillance activities in particular. Just to note that the milestone / timeline to interrupt WPV1 by end 2023 does not mean that we will have no WPV1 detections during the year.*

*Confirmation this month of a [new WPV1 case](#) from Pakistan, the first since September, is of course disappointing, and tragic for the child and family affected. But the reality is, it is not unexpected. WPV1 has been detected from environmental samples (sewage samples), so we knew the virus is still present and a stark reminder of the dangers of any residual transmission. But at the same time, virus transmission continues to be extremely geographically restricted in the country, with no human transmission reported outside of six polio-endemic districts in the southern area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, since January 2021. The biological diversity of transmission is also at a historic low, with only one lineage remaining in circulation in the country. The programme remains single-mindedly focus on closing the remaining gaps to interrupt these ever diminishing transmission chains in ever narrowing geographies.*

*I hope this helps but I remain of course your disposal for any additional information or should you have any immediate questions. Thank you for your tremendous work and engagement – your leadership and support, and that of [Rotarians around the world](#) – is what brought us in sight of a polio-free world and is what will get us over the finish line.*

*Best regards. Aidan*

- **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

Bob Rogers

Rotary Club of Sebastopol

**District 5130**

PolioPlus Chair (2020/23)

Past District Governor (2017/18)

**Zone 27**

End Polio Now Coordinator (2020/23)

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## Poliovirus Weekly Update 22 March, 2023, World Health Organization

You will see below, that the number of wild polio cases for 2023 as of March 22nd 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**

**<https://polioeradication.org/acronyms/>**

***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: 1**

**Positive Environmental Samples (ES): 4**

### New circulating Vaccine Derived Poliovirus (cVDPV) isolates reported last week:

**Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases: 6 (compared to 11 for the same period in 2022)**

**Positive Environmental Samples (ES): 12**

## Reported WPV1 and cVDPV cases as of 22nd March, 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: 14 (Compared to 11 for the same period in 2022)**
- **Total global cVDPV cases in 2022: 791**
- **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 <https://polioeradication.org/polio-today/polio-now/this-week/>

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

- **Afghanistan:** four wild poliovirus type 1-positive environmental samples
- **Pakistan:** one wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) case
- **Algeria:** one circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2)-positive environmental sample
- **Benin:** two cVDPV2-positive environmental samples
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo):** two circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) and three cVDPV2-positive cases
- **Indonesia:** one cVDPV2-positive case
- **Madagascar:** seven cVDPV1-positive environmental samples
- **Niger:** one cVDPV2-positive environmental sample
- **Nigeria:** one cVDPV2-positive environmental sample