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## Polio this week as of 13 March 2018

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**Headlines:** New on [www.polioeradication.org](http://www.polioeradication.org): For International Women's Day, we highlighted the critical role that women play in global polio eradication efforts. Dr Adele Daleke Lisi Aluma works to reach children **who have never been vaccinated**, whilst in Somalia, **women are the face of polio eradication**. In Nigeria, dedicated female mobilizers are ending polio, **one home at a time**.

The Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on immunization (SAGE) Polio Working Group recently met in Geneva, Switzerland, to review global progress against polio. The group reviewed and endorsed the main elements of the **Post-Eradication Strategy** (PCS) currently being developed at the request of Member States, aimed at ensuring the availability of core functions to sustain a polio-free world after global certification (such as outbreak response capacity, surveillance, immunization and containment). The PCS will be presented in April to the full SAGE, and to Member States at the World Health Assembly (WHA) in May. The group also reviewed current outbreak response protocols to vaccine-derived poliovirus, and agreed with a proposed plan to harmonize recommendations on immunization schedules in countries with Polio Essential Facilities (PEFs – facilities that will continue to handle poliovirus stock under appropriate containment).

**Summary of newly-reported viruses this week: Afghanistan: Advance notifications have been received of two new cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1), one occurring in Kunar province, and one in Kandahar province.** Three new wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) positive environmental samples have been reported in Nangarhar province. Pakistan: One new WPV1 positive environmental sample has been reported in Balochistan province. Democratic Republic of the Congo: Two cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) reported, one from Tanganyika province, and one from Haut Lomami province.

**Afghanistan: Advance notifications have been received of two new cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1), one occurring in Kunar province, and one in Kandahar province. NOTE: NOW 5 IN AFGHANISTAN**

This will raise the total number of officially reported WPV1 cases in Afghanistan in 2018 to five.

Three new WPV1 positive environmental samples were reported this week in Nangarhar province, two in Jalalabad district, collected on 24 February, and one in Behsud district, collected on 25 February.

Supplementary immunization days are currently ongoing, with vaccinators aiming to vaccinate children across 34 provinces using bivalent oral polio vaccine (bOPV). The days are synchronized with a campaign taking place in Pakistan, part of efforts to interrupt transmission of the virus across

the shared border.

**Pakistan: No new cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) were reported in the past week.**

The total number of officially reported WPV1 cases in Pakistan in 2017 remains eight. There are no cases reported in 2018.

The most recent case (by date of onset) was reported in Zhob district, Balochistan province, with onset on 15 November 2017.

**Nigeria: No new cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) were reported in the past week.**

The total number of WPV1 cases for 2016 is four and no cases have been reported in 2017 or 2018.

The most recent case (by date of onset) was reported in Monguno Local Government Area, Borno, with onset on 21 August 2016.

## Wild poliovirus type 1 and Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus cases

Total cases	Year-to-date 2018		Year-to-date 2017		Total in 2017	
	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV
Globally	2	2	4	0	22	96
—In Endemic Countries	2	0	4	0	22	0
—In Non-endemic Countries	0	2	0	0	0	96

## Case breakdown by country

Countries	Year-to-date 2018		Year-to-date 2017		Total in 2017		Onset of paralysis of most recent case	
	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV
Afghanistan	2	0	2	0	14	0	5-Jan-2018	NA
Democratic Republic Of The Congo	0	2	0	0	0	22	NA	18-Jan-2018
Pakistan	0	0	2	0	8	0	14-Nov-2017	NA
Syrian Arab Republic	0	0	0	0	0	74	NA	20-Sep-2017

NA: Onset of paralysis in most recent case is prior to 2017. Figures exclude non-AFP sources. All cVDPV are type2. cVDPV definition: see document "Reporting and classification of vaccine-derived polioviruses" at [\[pdf\]](#)