



Department of Health  
 Bureau of Quarantine  
**International Health Surveillance Division**  
 Quarantine Services and International Health Surveillance System (QSIHSS)

**Health Information Update**

Source: WHO, Event Information Site for IHR National Focal  
 Event Updates: **23 July 2018**



International Health Surveillance Division  
 (IHS)

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Event Updated	Country	Hazard	Disease	Event Description	IHR Assessment
2018-07-23	Nigeria	Infectious	Poliomyelitis, acute paralytic, vaccine-associated	<p>A circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) outbreak has been confirmed in Sokoto state, Nigeria. Ten environmental samples collected between 30 January and 23 May, tested positive for genetically-related VDPV2 viruses from two collection sites in the state. No associated cases of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) have been detected with this cVDPV2; this strain was isolated in environmental samples only. In addition, Nigeria continues to be affected by a separate cVDPV2 outbreak. Initially restricted to Jigawa state, the same genetic cluster of VDPV has now been detected in Yobe state in a stool sample collected from an AFP case (with onset of paralysis on 16 June, 2018) and an environmental sample (collected on 31 May, 2018), and in another environmental sample in Gombe state (collected on 9 April, 2018). Previously, this strain had been detected in Jigawa state, from an AFP case (with onset of paralysis on 15 April 2018) and six environmental samples (collected between 10 January and 2 May 2018).</p> <p>All viruses from the different environmental surveillance catchment areas as well as the AFP cases benefitted from a detailed investigation within 48 hours of notification of the country by the Global Polio Laboratory Network. Included in the detailed investigation was the search of any residual trivalent OPV and/or monovalent OPV type 2 (mOPV2), community coverage survey, health facility retrospective case search and community active case search for AFP and healthy children stool sampling. In May 2018, two rounds of an outbreak response with mOPV2 were organized in 54 Local Government Areas in Jigawa, Bauchi, Gombe and Sokoto, to address concurrently the two cVDPV2 outbreaks. Prior to the outbreak response, a risk assessment was done and arrived at a conclusion that there was a high risk of spread of the two outbreak virus strains. Surveillance enhancement activities as well as routine immunization intensification activities were implemented and are ongoing. There has been no further detection of either wild poliovirus type 1 or cVDPV2 in Borno state since September 2016. However, a regional public health emergency across the Lake Chad subregion remains in place, following detection of both strains in 2016. Borno state continues to be affected by inaccessibility in some areas, hampering access to all populations and areas for both vaccinations and surveillance.</p> <p>It is important that all countries, in particular those with frequent travel and contacts with polio-affected countries and areas, strengthen surveillance for AFP in order to rapidly detect any polio case, implement prevention measures, and speed-up the response if needed. Countries should also maintain uniformly on all their</p>	Public Health Risk

				<p>territory high polio immunization coverage through routine vaccination to minimize the consequences of any new virus introduction or emergence. <i>WHO's International Travel and Health</i> (<a href="http://www.who.int/ith/en/">http://www.who.int/ith/en/</a>) recommends that all travellers to polio-affected areas be fully vaccinated against polio. Residents (and visitors for more than four weeks) from infected areas should receive an additional dose of oral polio vaccine (OPV) or inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) within four weeks to 12 months of travel. Countries affected by poliovirus transmission are subject to International Health Regulations Temporary Recommendations that request them to report a case of polio as a national public health emergency and consider vaccination of all international travellers. Any country that exports poliovirus should ensure vaccination of all international travellers before departure.</p>
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\* A **public health risk** is something that is (or is likely to be) hazardous to human **health** or could contribute to a disease or an infectious condition in humans.