Circulating Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus Type 2 Outbreak in Indonesia

Situation Report No 9 – 11 April 2023

Outbreak response:
- Coordination and planning
- Surveillance
- Immunization response
- Advocacy, social behaviour change, and risk communication

Summary

Outbreak confirmation:
- Total number of AFP cases with cVDPV2: 4
- Total number of healthy children with cVDPV2: 11 (4 in Aceh and 7 in West Java)
- Outbreak grade: 2

Infected Provinces and Districts:
- Aceh Province: 1 case with paralysis each in Pidie, North Aceh and Bireun districts
- West Java province: 1 case with paralysis in Purwakarta district

Index case:
- Source: AFP case
- Location: Mane sub-district, Pidie district
- Onset of paralysis: 9 October 2022
- Sex: Male
- Age: 7 years old
- Vaccination status: 0 dose

Most recent case (by date of onset):
- Source: AFP case
- Location: Maniis Subdistrict, Purwakarta District, West Java Province
- Onset of paralysis: 16 February 2023
- Sex: Female
- Age: 4 years old
- Vaccination status: 0 dose

Outbreak Response:
- Aceh Province: All children 0 to below 13 years
- North Sumatra and West Java Province: All children below 5 years
- Target: 6.5 million children
- Vaccine type: nOPV2

Crash Programme
- West Sumatra and Riau: All children below 5 years (0-59 months: bOPV and 4-59 months: IPV)

Key highlights
- In Purwakarta district, West Java province, seven healthy children have tested positive for circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in laboratory tests.
- On 10 April, the Ministry of Health (MoH) organized a monitoring and evaluation meeting with the provincial health office (PHO) West Java and (27) district health offices (DHOs) on the implementation of the outbreak response plan in West Java Province.
- On 3 April, West Java’s PHO launched SIA’s in Purwakarta district. This event was attended by the MoH Director General of Disease Prevention and Control, the spouse of West Java Governor, Mayors, WHO, UNICEF and other stakeholders. On the same day, WHO and Purwakarta’s DHO reinvestigated the seven healthy children who tested positive for VDPV2 in Tegaldatar village.
- On 17 March 2023, the MOH issued an official letter announcing the termination of the polio outbreak response activity in Aceh and requesting PHO, DHOs, and Puskesmas to conclude the nOPV2 immunization service at Puskesmas and other immunization posts; to validate data on remaining nOPV2 stock and utilization; and to conduct reverse logistics from Puskesmas to PHO level.
- On 24 March, the governor of Riau issued a letter calling for the acceleration of polio immunization coverage through a crash programme. The goal is to achieve a minimum target of 95% coverage of bOPV and IPV by 14 April 2023.
- On 27 March to 4 April, rapid convenient assessments (RCA) were conducted in several districts in North Sumatra provinces: Gunung Sitoli, South Nias, West Nias, and North Nias districts.
Situation Update

- A seven-year-old male child from Mane village, Mane sub-district, Pidie district, Aceh Province developed AFP with the onset of paralysis on 9 October 2022. The child did not have any travel history and had never received a polio vaccine (IPV or OPV). Laboratory confirmation of VDPV2 was received on 12 November 2022. Genetic sequencing results showed VDPV2 with 25 nucleotide changes. Whole genome sequencing is pending. Quantitative immunoglobulin test shows that the child is immunocompetent. In Mane, Pidie District, Aceh, 32 stool samples from healthy children in the surrounding area who are not contacts of the case were collected and tested for poliovirus. 4 stool specimens tested positive for VDPV2 with 25-26 nucleotide changes in the viral protein 1 (VP1) region.

- The second case was reported in North Aceh district. A three-year-old male child from Teupin Gadjah village, Tanah Jambo Aye Sub-district, Aceh province developed AFP with the onset of paralysis on 3 January 2023. The child did not have any travel history and had never received a polio vaccine (IPV or OPV) through the routine immunization programme but received the nOPV2 vaccine on 13 December 2022. Laboratory confirmation was received on 26 January 2023. Genetic sequencing results showed VDPV2 with 27 nucleotide changes. Whole genome sequencing is pending. A quantitative immunoglobulin test is also pending.

- The third case was reported in Bireuen district. A four-year-old boy from Meunasah Keutapang village, Jeunieb sub-district, Aceh province developed AFP with the onset of paralysis on 13 January 2023. The child did not have any travel history and had never received any polio vaccine (IPV or OPV) from the routine immunization programme. The child received the nOPV2 vaccine on 6 December 2022 during the first campaign round. Laboratory confirmation was received on 7 February 2023. Genetic sequencing results showed cVDPV2 with 34 nucleotide changes. Whole genome sequencing is pending. A quantitative immunoglobulin test is also pending.

- The fourth case was reported in Purwakarta district. A four-year-old girl from Tegal datar village, Manis Subdistrict, West Java province developed AFP with the onset of paralysis on 16 February 2023. The child did not have any travel history and had never received any polio vaccine (IPV or OPV) from the routine immunization programme. Genetic sequencing results showed cVDPV2 with 30 and 31 nucleotide changes. Following the identification of the latest case in West Java, a field investigation was carried out. The investigation involved collecting and analysing 30 stool samples from healthy children in the surrounding area who were not contacts of the case, 7 children are polio positive.

- Based on the examination conducted by the United States Centres for Disease Control (CDC) headquarters, MoH reported that the VDPV2 identified from Pidie district is not genetically linked to any previously sequenced VDPV2 and will be identified as INO-ACE-1. The positive results from the healthy children were examined as well and genetically linked with INO-ACE-1. Therefore, the PV2 virus was classified as cVDPV2.
Outbreak response
Coordination and planning

Aceh
- On April 3, UNICEF and WHO assisted the Aceh Government in finalizing the Aceh Governor Decree (Peraturan Gubernur) for accelerating immunization coverage in Aceh province. The meeting was participated by cross-sectoral institutions in Aceh. The document is still being processed by Ministry of Home Affairs.

North Sumatra
- On 4 April, WHO supported PHO North Sumatera to conduct data validation of polio SIA through a virtual meeting. This meeting was attended by the immunization officers of 33 DHOs to ensure the accuracy of data coverage, nOPV2 vaccine and dropper usage in accordance with provincial and district levels.
- On 30 March, WHO assisted DHO Simalungun to conduct a virtual monitoring and evaluation meeting with immunization officers and the heads of Puskesmas. Puskesmas Jawa Maraja and Ujung Pandang presented the lessons learned, strategies and challenges during polio SIA implementation. Simalungun committed to continue the sweeping strategy to ensure reaching the high and uniform coverage in all Puskesmas, as of this date the coverage was 87.4%.
- On 28-29 March 2023, WHO, MoH and PHO North Sumatra conducted a coordination meeting on polio SIA with DHO Nias and South Nias that was attended by all Puskesmas. In this meeting, MoH also delivered a presentation of the technical implementation of AFP surveillance and emphasized strengthening community-based surveillance as well as hospital-based surveillance for AFP case findings. As unvaccinated children are still being found during the RCA in this district, WHO suggested to continue sweeping by involving local government such as village and sub-village leaders.
- On 24 March, MoH, PHO North Sumatera and WHO jointly conducted a virtual monitoring and evaluation meeting of polio SIA implementation in five districts in Nias Island namely Nias, Gunung Sitoli, West Nias, North Nias and South Nias. Geographical issues, remote areas and limited resources are identified as main challenges in Nias island to reach high coverage. As one of action points, WHO plans to conduct an RCA during the next two weeks.
- On 4 April 2023, WHO participated in a multisectoral coordination meeting with DHO North Nias and Puskesmas Lahewa that was attended by head of villages, public figures, and religious groups. The meeting was conducted just before the sweeping activity in this area where WHO assisted with effective communication for multisectoral engagement to support sub pin polio coverage in this Puskesmas area.

West Java
- On 27 March, PHO conducted a multisectoral coordination meeting regarding polio outbreak response in Purwakarta district, which was attended by more than 200 participants, including from the Family Welfare Movement (TP-PKK), all subdistrict leaders, heads of Puskesmas, village leaders, midwives' organization, pediatricians' organization, religion department, Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI), pre-schools and education ministry, police and army. WHO presented the polio global situation and strategy to achieve high and uniform coverage.
**West Sumatra**

- On 21 March, WHO was involved in an evaluation meeting of the polio crash programme by providing feedback on the supportive supervision’s result and suggesting a plan of action to accelerate the coverage. The suggested plan of action is to strengthen multisectoral coordination and involvement in sweeping activities, expanding the area of sweeping to public areas such as markets, playgrounds and tourism destinations. The CDC manager, the immunization officers, the pharmacy officers, the head of surveillance and immunization from all (19) DHOs and PHO attended this evaluation meeting. Logistics sufficiency and control were also discussed, and currently, IPV vaccine stocks are available in PHOs, while bOPV vaccines have been distributed to all DHOs. However, PHOs must be informed of updates to bOPV vaccine needs by DHOs.

- On 17 of March 2023, the MOH issued an official letter on the extension of the polio crash programme in Riau and West Sumatra considering the coverage of bOPV and IPV in these two provinces are still below the target. As of 15 March 2023, Riau’s coverage was 46.8% for bOPV and 43.8% for IPV, while for West Sumatra the coverage for bOPV and IPV were 58.7% and 49.6%, respectively. The polio crash programme will be extended until 14 April 2023.

**Riau**

- On 21 March, PHO Riau conducted a coordination and evaluation meeting with MoH, DHO Kota Pekanbaru, Police Kota Pekanbaru, Indonesian Doctors Association Riau, Indonesian Nurses Association Riau, Indonesian Pediatrician Association Riau, Family Welfare Movement Riau (PKK) regarding the polio crash programme in Riau Province and Kota Pekanbaru. Participants discussed the barriers, enablers, and the best practices from other districts, which led to several follow up actions to improve bOPV and IPV coverage. PHO Riau will coordinate with the Governor of Riau to release an instruction letter to all mayors/regent (Bupati/Walikota) regarding the polio crash programme extension, lower coverage and further actions required. Stronger health promotion efforts of PHO Riau were also requested due to low demand of immunization in Pekanbaru and some other districts. It was also suggested to engage stakeholders such as journalists, the police, the military and health professional associations to disseminate health promotion information, mobilize targeted population and manage risk communication on issues of serious AEFI in Pekanbaru.

- On 17 March, DHO Rokan Hilir and the team along with WHO conducted a discussion with the Head of Puskesmas Bagansiapiapi which was one of Puskesmas with the highest population target for crash programme. However, the coverage was less than 70%. During the meeting, recording and reporting documents were reviewed. Furthermore, DHO Rokan Hilir plans to improve the crash programme coverage by conducting an evaluation meeting with all Puskesmas related to strategies, safety injection, cold chain including vaccine and logistic calculation. It was also planned to conduct a hospital record review (HRR) and coordination with big hospitals to improve surveillance performance as Rokan Hilir was considered a silent district.
Surveillance

Aceh

- From 25 March to 5 April, WHO assisted DHOs in four districts, namely Southeast Aceh, Subulussalam, South Aceh and Southwest Aceh to strengthen AFP surveillance. The team had coordination meetings with the management team in H. Sahudin District Hospital in Kutacane, Subulussalam District Hospital, Dr. H. Yuliddin Away Hospital in Tapaktuan, and Teungku Peukan District Hospital in Blangpidie. In addition, the meeting aims to advocate hospital support and discuss with paediatricians the importance of AFP surveillance. Subulussalam city is one of the silent districts in Aceh. HRR was conducted in the children’s ward and medical record department to review the register of patients under 15 years with suspect AFP. Furthermore, from this HRR in four hospitals, the team found eight AFP suspect cases; three cases were diagnosed with malnutrition, three with hypokalemia, and two with diarrhoea and severe dehydration.

- On 23 March, WHO assisted DHO Gayo Lues is one of the silent districts for AFP in Aceh. Therefore, WHO assisted DHO Gayo Lues for HRR at the Gayo Lues Regional Hospital in Blangkejeren. From this HRR, four suspected cases were found. DHO will follow up on the case findings and coordinate with the team at the Puskesmas for home visits and collecting samples. One of the challenges that the DHO will face is the distance between the sub-district and the Puskesmas from these cases, which are far from the city. However, the DHO plans to visit the Puskesmas to assist the team at Puskesmas regarding surveillance and taking adequate samples.

- On 21 March, WHO assisted DHO Central Aceh in conducting a HRR in Datu Beru Hospital. Central Aceh district has not yet sent a sample of suspect AFP this year. The record review was conducted in the Paediatric Inpatient Room, Children’s Poly, and Medical Records Department. The review was done by reviewing the record for the last three months. The challenges faced during this HRR were that the recording of medical records in this hospital still uses a manual, and the patient status returns to the medical records department for up to three to four months. In this HRR, one suspect case was found, which the Central Aceh DHO will follow up on.

North Sumatra

- On 29 March, WHO supported the surveillance officer at PHO North Sumatera to conduct monthly review meetings of VPD surveillance that was regularly done for surveillance officers of DHO, hospital and Puskesmas in North
Sumatera. WHO assisted in the strengthening technical implementation of AFP surveillance and other VPD surveillance.

- On 27 March, WHO assisted PHO North Sumatra to conduct coordination and a HRR in Mitra Medika Premier Hospital in Medan city. The meeting attended by the hospital management, representative of paediatric unit, emergency, laboratory and medical record. WHO supported the technical implementation of passive and active AFP surveillance and other VPD surveillance in hospital. The management will form a VPD surveillance team and committed to actively report the VPD cases regularly to DHO Medan. After the coordination meeting, participants continued with visiting the medical record unit to conduct HRR.

- On 20-27 March, PHO North Sumatera and DHO Medan conducted HRR in private hospitals in Medan. During the last two weeks PHO North Sumatera conducted HRR to 27 hospitals from five districts namely Tebing Tinggi, Labuhan Batu, Asahan, Medan, and Pematang Siantar. Total AFP cases reported 52 in North Sumatera until 24 March 2023 (target of Q1 2023: 70 AFP cases). Next week PHO North Sumatera will continue this activity to reach the target of first quarter 2023. This is a follow-up action of Workshop AFP Surveillance that conducted in 07-10 March 2023 by the MOH and there are new additional 30 AFP cases reported.

West Java

- Tegaltadar is the village where one index case and seven contact cases of VDPV2 have been discovered. On 3 April 2023 a team consisting of professionals from WHO, UNICEF and DHO visited Tagaltadar village to study the epidemiology and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) conditions in the area. The team assessed the household water supply, toilet, and drinking water. The pipes were found broken and repaired at multiple places, the households get the drinking water either from borewells or from the privately operated filter plant. No open defecation was found in the village. The families either have individual toilets or the share toilets among 3-5 families. The discharge either flows to the septic tanks or is discharged directly into the river/reservoir. The site was found unhygienic. The environment unit from Purwakarta’s DHO conducted an investigation regarding this condition.

Figure 7. Hospital Record Review in North Sumatra. Credit: PHO/Wahyu C. Sinaga and WHO/Candora Tambunan

Figure 8. Water is pumped to the tank for further distribution (left), water is distributed through pipes (middle) and septic tank (right). Credit: WHO/ Dr Javvad
Riau

- On 20 March, MoH conducted an AFP surveillance desk review and Riau Province was invited as one of the participants and WHO as facilitator. Based on AFP desk review, none of DHOs in Riau Province had reached non-polio AFP (NPAFP) rate target as of March 2023. However, Rokan Hilir and Indragiri Hilir, which were considered silent districts, started to improve their performance on surveillance by finding AFP cases. Several DHOs tried to follow up with a further action plan such as conducting refresher session of VPD surveillance as some districts and Puskesmas had new surveillance officers; conducting HRR and submitting FP-1 and KU-60 form in timely manner.
- As of 7 April, the NPAFP rate in Aceh was 4.9 per 100,000 population under 15 years of age. The specimen adequacy rate was 56.3% in 2022. There are four silent districts1 in Aceh, namely Kota Lhoksumawe, Gayo Lues, Aceh Tenggara, and Kota Subulussalam. In 2023, 37 AFP cases have been reported from 15 districts in Aceh, the annualized NPAFP rate is 6.6 per 100,000 population under 15 years with 78% specimen adequacy. Meanwhile, in West Java, the NPAFP rate was 2.3 per 100,000 population under 15 years of age. The specimen adequacy rate was 88.9% in 2022. There is one silent district, namely Kota Cimahi. In 2023, 90 AFP cases have been reported from 22 districts, the annualized NPAFP rate is 2.3 per 100,000 population under 15 years with 88.9% specimen adequacy.

Immunization response

- Two rounds of polio SIA using nOPV2 in Aceh province have been conducted, based on MOH official letter dated 17 March 2023. The activity has been completed, PHO, DHOs and Puskesmas need to validate and finalize the coverage, nOPV2 and logistics used, and remaining stocks while also strengthen routine immunization and conduct catch up for children below five years.

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1 A ‘silent’ district is a district, area, or other administrative entity that has not reported a single AFP case for a period ranging from 6 to 12 months or longer.
• The outbreak response was extended to the close-by provinces of North Sumatra, Riau, and West Sumatra:
  a) North Sumatra (starting 13 February 2023): polio SIA for all children under 5 years old using nOPV2.
  b) West Sumatra and Riau (starting 6 March 2023): with a special emphasis on strengthening routine immunization with the administration of additional doses of IPV for children aged four months to under five years and bOPV for children under five years.
• The polio SIA first round using nOPV2 started on 3 April 2023 in West Java, Province.
• Daily coverage monitoring and feedback is provided to local government, PHO, DHO, stakeholders, and implementers.
• As of 10 April, 6,858,799 doses of nOPV2 had been administered during the polio SIA in Aceh, North Sumatra and West Java. In Aceh, 1,168,281 out of 1,217,939 (95.9%) children received the nOPV2 vaccine in the first round and 1,163,889 (95.6%) in the second round, respectively. In North Sumatra, 1,255,977 (93.3%) children out of 1,346,655 received nOPV2 in the first round. In West Java, 3,270,652 (82.1%) out of 3,984,797 children received nOPV2 in the first round.

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As of 10 April, 741,415 (64.3%) out of 1,152,310 children aged 0-59 months received bOPV and 622,819 (57.1%) out of 1,090,128 children aged 4-59 months received IPV in West Sumatra and Riau provinces. In West Sumatra, 370,748 (72.4%) out of 512,309 children aged 0-59 months received bOPV and 294,172 (60.7%) out of 484,793 children aged 4-59 months received IPV. Meanwhile, in Riau, 370,629 (57.9%) out of 640,002 children aged 0-59 months received bOPV and 328,647 (54.3%) out of 605,335 children aged 4-59 months received IPV.
Aceh

- On 10 March, an RCA was conducted at Pidie Jaya district in four villages (Muko Baroh, Peulakan Cibrek, Tijien Daboh, Siblacoh) which involved Puskesmas and counterparts such as WHO and UNICEF. The results of the RCA indicate that most children have received two doses of nOPV2. The main reason for refusing immunization was not obtaining permission from the parents. The health workers and community leaders (village leader and sub-district leader) were the most trusted source of information related to the nOPV2 immunization.

- On 16 March, WHO conducted an RCA in two villages (Kuala Unga and Teumerum villages) with results showing nOPV2 coverage >95% in both villages. All respondents (parents or caregivers) ranked health workers, cadres, and religious leaders as the most trusted informants regarding the nOPV2 vaccination. They have worked together to provide routine risk communication regarding polio and nOPV2 to the community. The religious leader was actively involved in the polio SIA campaign to ensure the community taking part on the nOPV2 immunization. As a result, both villages achieved high nOPV2 coverage in phase 1 and phase 2.

North Sumatra

- On 31 March, WHO assisted PKM Kahean, Pematang Siantar district to conduct sweeping in Kahean village. Puskesmas were supervised to create priority areas by mapping unvaccinated children, maintaining interpersonal and risk communication with the community who are hesitant with immunization, and ensuring the technical aspects of the immunization are in accordance with the guideline. During the sweeping, 20 children were vaccinated with nOPV2.

- On 27-28 March, WHO attended a coordination meeting with the immunization officer regarding the polio SIA and highlighted that the coverage is still below 80%. The activity then continued by assisting DHO Gunung Sitoli to conduct an RCA. WHO found that 80% children have received nOPV2 in Puskesmas Gunung Sitoli, Sombe village and 87% children have received nOPV2 in Mudik village. The high mobility was the main reason for unvaccinated children in this area. A coordination meeting has been conducted with the CDC manager and the EPI officer to give feedback on the RCA result.

- From 28 March-4 April, together with PHO North Sumatra and MoH, WHO assisted DHO Nias, South Nias, West Nias, and North Nias to conduct RCAs. In Nias, during the RCA at Puskesmas Idanogawo, WHO found that 70% and 56% of the targeted children have received nOPV2 in Hilinaah and Awoni Lauso village, respectively. While during the RCA

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**Figure 11. Polio SIA (crash program) in Riau (left) and West Sumatra (right)**

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- Aceh
- North Sumatra

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in South Nias, 53.1% (Fondrako village), 40.7% (Lahasususua village), 83.7% (Illisato village), and 92.5% (Umubusohahau village) of the targeted children were found to have received nOPV2. During the RCA in West Nias, 100% (Fadoro village), 96.15% (Sianaa village), 89.2% (Hilimbuasi village), and 100% (Lolofitu village) of the targeted children were found to have received nOPV2. A coordination meeting with head of DHO, CDC manager, and EPI officer allowed sharing feedback on the RCA result. As many unvaccinated children were found during the RCA, sweeping was suggested.

**West Java**

- On 3 April, the launching of polio SIA in West Java was conducted in Posyandu Mawar 11, Puskesmas Purwakarta Kota, Purwakarta district, attended by the MoH Director General of Disease Prevention and Control, the West Java Governor’s wife, the Regent, WHO, UNICEF, Rotary and other stakeholders.

![The launching of polio SIA in Purwakarta, West Java](image)

- On 3 April 2023 WHO conducted supportive supervision for the implementation of polio SIA at Posyandu Mekar Mawar in Bandung District. The local government showed its commitment to the programme by participating in monitoring and attending the launching event, which was also attended by the Mayor of Bandung District. The sub-district and village heads actively monitored the implementation and mobilized the community for the SIA campaign.

- On 5 April 2023, WHO assisted DHO Purwakarta and village midwives in conducting a vaccination session followed by door to door sweeping on the same day at Puskesmas Maniis. The team encouraged the parents to bring their child/children for full immunization and reminded them to get the second dose of nOPV2 vaccine on 15 May 2023.

- On 4 April, WHO assisted DHO Tasikmalaya on monitoring polio SIA implementation in Puskesmas Tinewati and Salawu. The stakeholders, including the police, sub-district leader (Camat), and village leader, participated in the monitoring and helped in community mobilization efforts.

- On 30-31 March, MoH conducted an orientation meeting for health workers from Puskesmas and DHOs in 27 districts across four regions in West Java province. Of the 1,101 Puskesmas officers, 440 attended the meeting in person, and 661 participated virtually. The meeting aimed to prepare for the polio SIA campaign, to be conducted in two rounds, with a target coverage of above 95%. MoH emphasized the importance of increasing the socialization of SIA implementation to cross-sectional, cross-programmes, partners, and stakeholders, optimizing microplanning, and developing strategies to achieve high coverage and timely reporting.

**West Sumatra**

- On 28-31 March, WHO assisted Padang DHO in monitoring the polio crash programme at seven priority health centers, namely Puskesmas Andalas, Pauh, Lubuk Kilangan, Lubuk Begalung, Belimbing, Pegambiran, and Ikur Koto. WHO and DHO provided inputs to strengthen the sweeping strategy and motivated the health center heads to focus on the polio campaign. The teams rechecked the current real data with the data at the village level (RT) and annual birth data (2018-2023) to address the data gap issues in Padang city. They also analyzed the data of children who
have, have not, are sick, have already moved, and refused immunization to devise further strategies. WHO assisted the Anak Air health centre in conducting a sweeping activity in one posyandu with the highest number of unvaccinated children for both bOPV and IPV. During the activity, the teams identified that, unlike in other areas of Padang city, there was no significant rejection or hesitancy among the community towards immunization. The community had trust in and maintained close relationships with the midwives.

Figure 13. Monitoring of crash programme polio in DHO Padang city. Credit: WHO/Stella (left) and WHO/right (Novi)

Riau

- On 16 March, WHO conducted a monitoring visit to Puskesmas Bagan Batu in Rokan Hilir District, which had one of the highest population targets, but a coverage of less than 60%. WHO conducted sweeping activities with midwives and cadres in several areas to reach unvaccinated children. The visit also resulted in data analysis and strategies to conduct sweeping, which could be applied not only for the crash programme but also for routine immunization. During the visit, WHO suggested ways to improve the safety injection practice, which could be implemented at the end of the immunization session. Furthermore, Puskesmas conducted further coordination with cross-sectoral partners to assist in the mobilization of the population target during the polio crash programme. The strategies and coordination efforts would help to improve the coverage of the vaccination programme and increase the number of vaccinated children.

Advocacy, social behaviour changes, and risk communication

Advocacy

West Java

- On 28 March, the MoH Directorate of Immunization organized an audience meeting with the West Java Governor. The aim was to coordinate the outbreak response plan in West Java and requesting the roles of government in channelling multisectoral resources and direct existing support for monitoring while leading the response implementation. The same meeting was held in Purwakarta District with the Mayor of Purwakarta.
- On 29 March, MoH had an advocacy meeting with stakeholders, cross sectoral, and cross programme from PHO and DHO level. This advocacy meeting was attended by the wife of the Governor, the head of Local Government and Development, the head of Family Welfare Movement, Mayors, the head of DHO, Ministry of Religion at PHO level, the head of Education Office, Expert Committee (ITAGI), Health Professional Organization, and AEFI committee. This advocacy meeting helped encourage participation and commitment by stakeholders in supporting the polio outbreak response. Local government would be providing co-funding, operational assistance, resource mobilization, and monitoring the implementation.
North Sumatra

- On 30 March, WHO supported the DHO Simalungun and midwives of Kampung Lalong Puskesmas Ujung Padang to coordinate with the village head to strengthen local government support in the polio outbreak response, risk communication of polio and ensuring the local government actively supports midwives in sweeping and remind the continue role of local government until the implementation of 2nd round of polio SIA.

West Sumatra

- On 6 April, WHO and DHO Padang city (Head of immunization and surveillance department) conducted a coordination meeting with the Padang Chinese community leader of Tjinta Teman Association (Hok Tek Tong) to support Padang city DHO in the immunization programme, particularly crash programme polio through disseminating information to the community, assist the health center in identify unvaccinated children and mobilize the community to receive polio vaccines and collaborate with local organization/philanthropists to support the implementation of the polio crash programme.
- On 30 March, WHO met with Director of Padang Health Polytechnic related collaboration to improve immunization coverage in West Sumatera. This meeting was attended by the head of the midwifery department, the head of nurse department and the head of health promotion department. The Director strongly supported the immunization programme through inserting the support for immunization in students’ and lecturers’ community service and on the research to navigate the potential impactful strategy to improve the immunization coverage in West Sumatera.
- On 20 March, the United Nations Department of Safety and Security Indonesia (UNDSS) conducted its annual visit to strengthen coordination and collaboration with the regional police office in West Sumatera Province. WHO joined the local meeting and discussed collaboration to improve immunization coverage in West Sumatera and the current polio crash programme. The meeting was attended by the Chief of Regional Police of West Sumatera, the Head of Police Community Department, the Head of Police Resources Department, the Head of Police Medicine and Health Department, and UNDP. The regional police showed strong support for the immunization programme and expressed their commitment to accompany health workers in the field during sweeping activities and to educate the community about the importance of immunization. This collaboration would help to address the challenges faced by health workers during the polio crash programme and improve vaccination coverage.

Risk Communication

- UNICEF supported MoH and collaborated with WHO on the development of information, education and communication (IEC) materials, including banners, posters and leaflets, for the polio outbreak response in West Java scheduled for 3 April 2023.
Logistics

- On 10 April, PHO West Java, UNICEF and WHO conducted a meeting about the strengthening of waste management in West Java. The decision was made that Puskesmas will distribute all opened vials and safety disposed to General Hospital at district level and a third party will collect the waste from the hospital to be destroyed. UNICEF encouraged that waste management should follow recommendations or suggested guidance.
- On 30 March, 4,981,000 doses of nOPV2 or 99,620 vials and supporting logistics were received by PHO West Java for polio SIA and has been distributed to all 27 DHOs.

![Figure 15. nOPV2 and logistics arrival for polio SIA in West Java. Credit: PHO West Java](image)

- Following up on the MoH letter regarding the completion of polio SIA in Aceh, PHO Aceh conducted a desk review for nOPV2 on 30 March which was assisted by UNICEF, WHO, and UNDP. It aimed to validate nOPV2 used and remaining stocks attended by more than 340 participants from 23 DHOs.
- On 29-30 March 2023, WHO and UNICEF conducted supportive supervision to Puskesmas Serbelawan and Ujung Padang, Simalungun district, North Sumatra to give refresher training and ensure that used vials are managed in accordance with nOPV2 waste management guidance. Puskesmas were also encouraged to ensure that all used vials in the village are collected to the Puskesmas after immunization and immunization officers need to calculate the vial sync with the recording data.

Surge Support

MoH

- MoH continues to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the polio outbreak response in Aceh and West Java. The expansion of the response is implemented to close-by provinces of North Sumatra, Riau, and West Sumatra.
- MoH is regularly providing feedback on polio vaccination and surveillance updates.

WHO

- WHO deployed national staff in Aceh, North Sumatra, West Java, West Sumatra, and Riau provinces and international staff in Aceh and West Java to intensify support for the polio outbreak response. Their support focuses on technical assistance related to vaccine mobilization, assessment, advocacy, surveillance, data quality monitoring, laboratory testing and specimen shipment, and capacity building of health workers.

UNICEF

- UNICEF has established a field office in the capital of Aceh province. The teams have been reinforced with a surge in support of national officers and consultants for immunization, advocacy, and communication for development (C4D).
- UNICEF deployed national personnel members to support polio outbreak response in PHO and DHOs in Aceh with a primary focus on immunization, advocacy, and communication.
• UNICEF supported the extended polio outbreak responses in North Sumatra, Riau, and West Sumatra through the deployment of national personnel with a primary focus on providing technical assistance on vaccine management and immunization.

• UNICEF is continuing the technical assistance to the polio outbreak response in West Java by deploying national team members with a particular focus on nOPV2 vaccine management.

**Key Issues**

• Vaccine hesitancy needs to be addressed through targeted communication and social mobilization efforts.

• Surveillance needs strengthening to reach the enhanced target non-polio AFP and stool adequacy rates by ensuring no AFP cases are missed.

• The outbreak response plan and budget are to be validated by MoH and shared with WHO to be endorsed by the Outbreak Response and Preparedness Group (ORPG) and ensure funds for the response.

• The campaign coverage data management and reporting mechanism needs to be improved, especially for children who received the first dose of nOPV2 during the second round of the campaign.

• The nOPV2 vaccine utilization data and reporting mechanism needs to be improved, especially for the unused, broken, or missing vials during the first and the second round in Aceh; and for the first round in North Sumatra.

**Next Steps**

• Weekly tracking of preparedness for the next mass vaccination response campaign at national, provincial, and district levels is to be conducted with special attention on the low-performing districts. Information is to be shared regularly with Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) partners.

**Relevant Links**

- [http://polioeradication.org/](http://polioeradication.org/)
- [https://www.who.int/indonesia/emergencies/polio-outbreak](https://www.who.int/indonesia/emergencies/polio-outbreak)

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