

FACTSHEET



'Pag Kumpleto, Protektado'

Ligtas POLIO



What is Polio? | Polio (poliomyelitis) is a highly contagious disease caused when the poliovirus invades the nervous system. **Signs and symptoms** include fever, fatigue, headache, vomiting, stiff neck and sudden onset of floppy arms or legs. Severe cases can lead to permanent paralysis or even death.

Anyone who has not been fully immunized has the risk of getting polio. **Children under five years of age are most vulnerable.**

Polioviruses primarily spread via feces | Polioviruses infect via the oral-fecal route - often through food, water or objects **contaminated with feces from an infected person.**



1 Child excretes virus in feces.

2 Virus transferred to objects from hands.

3 Virus transferred to another child's hands.

4 Virus is ingested.

5 Next cycle of infection begins.

Global Polio Cases | Polio cases worldwide decreased by over 99% since 1988 - from an estimated 350,000 cases to 356 reported cases in 2014. Of the three strains of wild poliovirus (types 1, 2 and 3), poliovirus type 2 is first to be eradicated in 1999.

As of 18 August, 36 wild poliovirus cases have been reported globally for 2015. These cases come from from Afghanistan and Pakistan. One case of vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 was also detected in Nigeria.

Polio in the Philippines | The last case of wild poliovirus in the Philippines was reported in 1993. The country is polio-free since 2000. However, circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus cases were detected in

Status: Polio Eradication

2001. Moreover, the routine coverage for the third dose of the Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) has remained below 95% target in the recent years, placing the country at high risk for poliovirus outbreaks.

Towards a Polio-Free World | Polio-free countries remain at risk until poliovirus transmission is completely stopped in endemic countries. As the world is getting closer to eradicating polio, a new global strategy is being adopted to stop the poliovirus transmission globally - the introduction of at least one dose of Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) in routine immunization.

Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV)



Vaccination prevents polio | There is no cure for polio. Polio, along with other childhood diseases, can be prevented by vaccination. One dose of Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) is introduced in the routine immunization schedule in addition with three doses of Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) as a crucial step in eliminating all forms of polio disease and in securing a polio-free world.

The national routine immunization schedule for infants is as follows:

VACCINE	RECOMMENDED AGE OF THE CHILD					
	AT BIRTH	1½ MONTHS	2½ MONTHS	3½ MONTHS	9 MONTHS	1 YEAR
BCG	✓					
HEPATITIS B	✓					
PENTAVALENT VACCINE (DPT-Hep B-Hb)		✓	✓	✓		
ORAL POLIO VACCINE (OPV)		✓	✓	✓		
INACTIVATED POLIO VACCINE (IPV)				✓		
PNEUMOCOCCAL CONJUGATE VACCINE (PCV)		✓	✓	✓		
MEASLES, MUMPS, RUBELLA (MMR)					✓	✓

IPV and other injectable vaccines may cause mild and temporary reactions which are normal to vaccination

The immunized child may experience mild fever, and soreness and redness at the injection sites as part of the body's response to vaccination. If these reactions persist or if other reactions are observed, parents or caretakers are advised to consult the nearest health center or hospital.

What is IPV? | IPV consists of killed polioviruses and stimulates serum immunity against the three poliovirus types (types 1, 2 and 3).

IPV is safe and effective, and has been successfully used in polio eradication in other countries. IPV does not cause any vaccine-associated paralysis and complements the immunity provided by the OPV.

The differences of OPV and IPV are listed in the table below.

OPV	IPV
Composed of live, weakened viruses	Composed of killed viruses
Given orally, by drops	Given by injection
Given in 3 doses at 1½ months, 2½ months and 3½ months (6, 10 and 14 weeks)	Given in a one dose at 3½ months (14 weeks) maximizes a child's immunity when given in addition to OPV
Provides immunity through the mucosa (mouth and intestines)	Provides immunity through the blood
Passes immunity from person-to-person	Provides individual immunity only
Very low risk for VAPPs or cVDPVs	No risk for VAPPs or cVDPVs

* VAPP : Vaccine-Associated Paralytic Poliomyelitis
** cVDPVs : circulating Vaccine-Derived Polioviruses

For more information, please consult the Reference Guidelines.