



Vaccine-Derived Polio Detected

[Source: TH](#)

Recently, a child from Meghalaya was diagnosed with [vaccine-derived polio \(VDP\)](#).

- VDP occurs when the **weakened (attenuated)** strain of poliovirus used in the [oral polio vaccine \(OPV\)](#) mutates and **regains** the ability to cause [paralysis](#).
- VDP typically occurs in areas with **low immunisation coverage**, poor sanitation, or among **immunocompromised** individuals.
- More than **90%** of VDP outbreaks are due to the [Wild poliovirus type 2 \(WPV2\)](#) present in OPV.
- The Indian government does not count **vaccine-associated paralytic poliomyelitis (VAPP)** as polio since these cases are **sporadic** and pose little or **no threat** to others.
- The WHO declared [India polio-free in 2014](#). This case does not jeopardise India's **polio-free status**.
- **Types of Poliovirus: WPV1, WPV2, and WPV3** are three types of wild polioviruses (naturally occurring), with identical symptoms but **different genetic structures**.
 - **WPV2** and **WPV3** were eradicated in **2015** and **2019** respectively with ongoing global **efforts** to **eradicate WPV1**.
 - Currently, wild poliovirus is **endemic** in **Pakistan** and **Afghanistan**.
- [Inactivated Polio Vaccine \(IPV\)](#) was developed by **Jonas Salk** using an **inactivated virus** while [Oral Polio Vaccine \(OPV\)](#) was developed by **Albert Sabin**, containing a **live, attenuated virus**.

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What is polio

- Poliomyelitis (polio) is a highly infectious viral disease, mainly affecting children
- According to WHO, the virus is transmitted from person-to-person, mainly through the faecal-oral route

STRAINS

- There are three types of polio virus strains — P1, P2 and P3
- P2 was eradicated globally in 1999
- India attained a polio free status in 2014 after successfully eliminating the wild P1 and P3 strains



VACCINATION SCHEDULE

OPV: At 6 weeks, 10 weeks and 14 weeks

IPV: At 6 weeks and 14 weeks

OPV booster: Between 16 and 24 months

Read More: [Polio Eradication](#)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/vaccine-derived-polio-detected>