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Niger: circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV)

Two cases of cVDPV have been reported from Zinder province, Niger

Two cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) have been reported from Zinder province, in the south of Niger [1]. The dates of onset of paralysis were 18 July and 8 August, 2018. The cases are genetically linked to a cVDPV2 in Jigawa, northern Nigeria [1]. Surveillance for further cases is being strengthened and an outbreak response will be implemented [2].

Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus, like wild poliovirus (WPV), has the potential to cause paralysis in unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals; it can arise in populations who are inadequately vaccinated, and where sanitation and personal hygiene is poor [3].

Advice for travellers

Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus can be transmitted via the faecal-oral route, either by exposure to water contaminated by infected human faeces, or by person to person contact. You are advised to practise [strict food, water and personal hygiene](#).

Independent of your travel destination, you should be up to date with [routine vaccination courses and boosters as recommended in the UK](#).

If you are travelling to countries reporting recent cVDPV, including Niger, you should make sure you have completed a full course of a polio-containing vaccine; if your last dose of polio vaccine was given 10 or more years ago, you should have a booster dose before travel. Children who are travelling should be up to date with an age appropriate course of polio vaccine.

An additional dose of polio vaccination within the last year is recommended for a small number of travellers. Details are available on the [Niger Country Information page: Vaccine recommendations](#).

Advice for health professionals

For specific country advice and outbreak information, check our [Country Information pages](#).

Under International Health Regulations, there is currently no polio vaccination certificate requirement for this country. The polio status of countries is reviewed by WHO on a regular basis and polio vaccination recommendations are subject to change.

Further details on the global polio situation can be found on the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) and [World Health Organization](#) websites.

Resources

- [World Health Organization: Polio](#)
- [Poliomyelitis factsheet](#)

References

1. [Global Polio Eradication Initiative, polio this week as of 25 September 2018. \[Accessed 2 October 2018\]](#)
2. [Global Polio Eradication Initiative, Niger. \[Accessed 2 October 2018\]](#)
3. [World Health Organization, What is vaccine-derived polio? Online Q&A, Updated April 2017. \[Accessed 2 October 2018\]](#)