

Welcome to PUMPKINS AGAINST POLIO!



Thank You to Our Sponsors!!













Hugh Miller









What Is Polio?

Polio, or poliomyelitis, is a paralyzing and potentially deadly infectious disease that most commonly affects children under the age of 5. The virus spreads from person to person, typically through contaminated water. It can then attack the nervous system.





Rotary vs. Polio

Rotary is an international community that brings together leaders who step up to take on the world's toughest challenges, locally and globally. The eradication of polio is one of our longest standing and most significant efforts. Along with our partners, we have helped immunize more than 2.5 billion children against polio in 122 countries. We have reduced polio cases by 99.9 percent worldwide and we won't stop until we end the disease for good.





Facts About Polio

- 1. Polio mainly affects children under 5
- 2. There is no cure, but polio is preventable with a vaccine
- 3. Only 2 countries remain endemic
- 4. Rotary has reduced cases by 99.9% since 1988
- 5. Until we end polio forever, every child is at risk





1894 – The first major documented outbreak in the U.S. occurs in Vermont; 18 deaths and 132 cases of permanent paralysis are reported.













1905 – Swedish physician Ivar Wickman suggests that polio is a contagious disease that can spread from person to person and also recognizes that polio could be present in people who show no symptoms.









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1908 – 2 physicians in Vienna, Karl Landsteiner and Erwin Popper, discover that polio is caused by a virus.

1916 – A major polio outbreak in New York City kills more than 2,000 people. Across the U.S., polio takes the lives of about 6,000 people and paralyzes thousands more.

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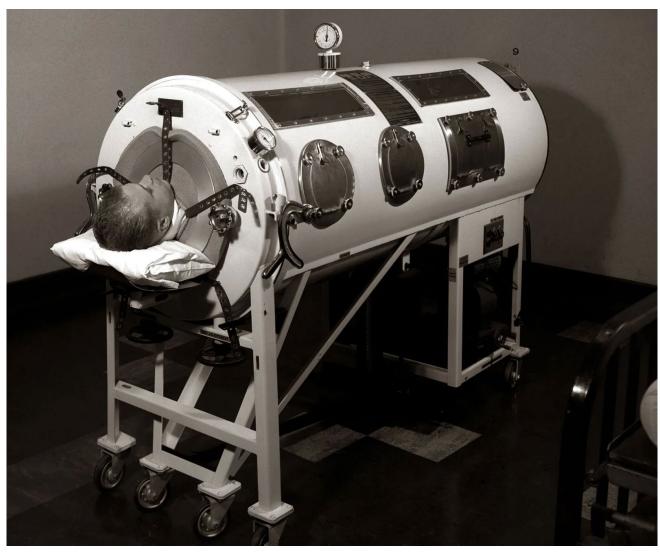




1929 – Philip Drinker and Harvard University's Louis Agassiz Shaw Jr. invent an artificial respirator for patients suffering from paralytic polio – the iron lung.

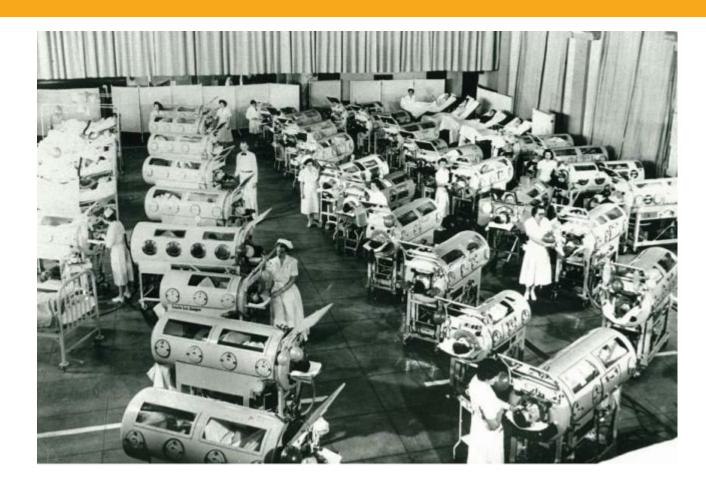


















1955 – A vaccine developed by Dr. Jonas Salk is declared "safe and effective."

1960 – The U.S. government licenses the oral polio vaccine developed by Dr. Albert Sabin.



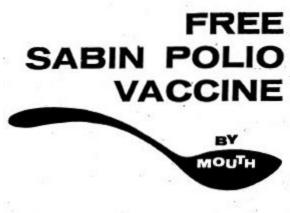








Protect Your Pre-School Children





Cincinnati's Dr. Albert B. Sabin gives a child a teaspoon of sugar syrup

"Children's Crusade" April 24-May 1





1979 – Rotary International begins its fight against polio with a multi-year project to immunize 6 million children in the Philippines.











1985 – Rotary International launches PolioPlus, the first and largest internationally coordinated private-sector support of a public health initiative, with an initial fundraising target of US\$120 million.











1988 – Rotary International and the World Health Organization launch the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. There are an estimated 350,000 cases of polio in 125 countries.

























1994 – The International Commission for the Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication announces that polio has been eliminated from the Americas.













1995 — Health workers and volunteers immunize 165 million children in China and India in 1 week. Rotary launches the PolioPlus Partners program, enabling Rotary members in poliofree countries to provide support to fellow members in polio-affected countries for polio eradication activities.













2000 – A record 550 million children – almost 10% of the world's population – receive the oral polio vaccine. The Western Pacific region, spanning from Australia to China, is declared polio-free.





2003 – The Rotary Foundation raises \$119 million in a 12-month campaign. Rotary's total contribution to polio eradication exceeds \$500 million. Six countries remain polioendemic – Afghanistan, Egypt, India, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan.





2004 – In Africa, synchronized National Immunization Days in 23 countries target 80 million children, the largest coordinated polio immunization effort on the continent.

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2006 – The number of polio-endemic countries drops to 4 – Afghanistan, India, Nigeria,

Pakistan

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Rotary's overall contribution to the eradication effort nears \$800 million. In January, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation pledges \$355 million and issues Rotary a challenge grant of \$200 million. This announcement will result in a combined \$555 million in support of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

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2011 -

Rotary welcomes celebrities and other major public figures into a new public awareness campaign and ambassador program called "This Close" to ending polio. Program ambassadors include Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Desmond Tutu, violinist Itzhak Perlman, cofounder of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Bill Gates, Grammy Award-winning singers Angelique Kidjo and Ziggy Marley, and environmentalist Dr. Jane Goodall. Rotary's funding for polio eradication exceeds \$1 billion.

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India surpasses 1 year without a recorded case of polio and is removed from the list of countries where polio is endemic. Polio remains endemic in just 3 countries. Rotary surpasses its \$200 Million Challenge fundraising goal more than 5 months earlier than expected.











2014 – India goes 3 full years without a new case caused by the wild poliovirus, and the World Health Organization certifies the South-East Asia region polio-free. Polio cases are down over 99% since 1988.





2019 – Nigeria goes 3 full years without a new case caused by the wild poliovirus.

2020 – The World Health Organization certifies the African region wild polio-free.









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What Is Left To Do?

Today, polio remains endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan. But it's crucial to continue working to keep other countries polio-free. If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years, polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children each year.





What Is Left To Do?







It costs \$100 million to conduct polio surveillance worldwide.

The Polio Global Eradication Initiative focuses on highpriority countries and territories to interrupt the wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) and outbreaks of type 2 circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV2).





Global polio surveillance action plan 2025–2026

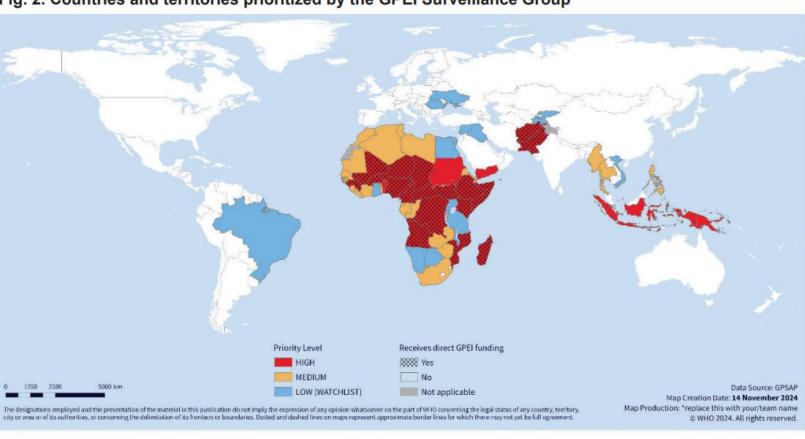


Fig. 2. Countries and territories prioritized by the GPEI Surveillance Group







\$3 – the average cost to fully protect a child against polio

Every donation helps to obtain the vaccines, transport and materials needed in the fight against polio.

Most people don't know that polio still affects children around the world. Get informed and help spread the word.





Resources

ENDPOLIO.ORG

polioeradication.org









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