



ROTARY
DISTRICT 1130



PolioPlus

A programme of The Rotary Foundation that Supports global polio eradication efforts in Polio endemic countries by conducting National Immunisation Days, monitoring poliovirus Transmission and other activities

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POLIO NEWS IN BRIEF

DO YOU ONPASS THIS NEWSLETTER TO OTHER MEMBERS OF YOUR CLUB? IF NOT, WHAT ABOUT DOING SO!

BILL SERGEANT HONOURED AT WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY (WHA)

Rotarian Bill Sergeant, who was honoured on 23 May 2006 by the WHA, is a founding personality in the global effort to eradicate polio and has been overseeing the polio eradication within Rotary International for more than twelve years. He has, in fact, served in Rotary International for nearly six decades and received this personal citation from WHA at its annual assembly.

TONY BLAIR NAMED A POLIO CHAMPION

Clubs are reminded that Tony Blair received our Rotary International Polio Eradication Champion Award on 11 May 2006 for his significant contribution towards a polio-free world.

TOTAL CASES OF POLIOVIRUS WORLDWIDE IN 2006

Endemic Countries:

Nigeria	310
India	27
Afghanistan	6
Pakistan	3

Nigeria

- In 2006, 310 cases have been reported to date, compared to 77 cases for the same period in 2005.
- Of the 37 states in Nigeria, five states in the north (Bauchi, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano and Katsina) account for 86% of all cases in 2006 in Nigeria, and more than two-thirds (70%) of all global cases. These states, where more than 40% of children have not received any doses of oral polio vaccine (OPV), form the only place in the world with uncontrolled transmission of wild poliovirus where year-to-year incidence of polio continues to increase.

India

- 7 cases have been reported in 2006 compared with 14 for the same period in 2005, all in western Uttar Pradesh and Bihar
- One district in western Uttar Pradesh, Moradabad, accounts for 7 of the 27 cases this year. A review mission to Moradabad concluded that, the increase in cases in the district, is largely due to a decline in the quality of supplementary immunisation activities (SIAs) during the last half of 2005. There have been improvements in the quality during February and April 2006 SIAs.

Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, 6 cases have been reported this year, compared with none for the same period last year. All cases are in the southern region of Kandahar, the only remaining shared corridor of transmission with Pakistan (extending from Kandahar, into Pakistan's Balochistan and southern Punjab's northern Sindh.)

Pakistan

In Pakistan, 3 cases have been reported this year, compared with 7 for the same period last year. Pakistan's most recent case had onset of paralysis on 28 April 2006.

Importations

Somalia	21
Niger	3
Indonesia	2
Ethiopia	2
Yemen	1
Democratic Republic Of Congo	1
Bangladesh	1
Nepal	1

The remaining challenges to a polio-free world are:

- Curbing the intense transmission in the high-priority states in northern Nigeria
- Sustaining campaigns to break the final polio chains in the other three endemic countries
- Rapidly stopping polio outbreaks in previously polio-free countries
- Addressing low routine immunisation rates and surveillance gaps in polio-free areas
- Maintaining funding and political commitment

Polio eradication will only succeed if the necessary funds are made available, and with strong political commitment in polio-affected countries. More than 10 million children will be paralysed in the next 40 years if the world fails to capitalise on its global investment in eradication.

So, please, continue to forward your club's contributions, marked PolioPlus, to:

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