

Afghanistan Polio Eradication

**Newsletter
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Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) Surveillance Update

As of 3rd April 2011, the AFP surveillance system in Afghanistan reported 382 AFP cases: 76 AFP cases were reported from Northern Region; 69 from Western Region; 63 from Central Region; 52 from Southern Region; 46 from Northeastern Region; 35 from Eastern Region; 30 from Southeastern Region and 11 cases from Badakshan province. **The present AFP surveillance indicators in Afghanistan are meeting the desired level set by global partners.**

To date there is one confirmed case of NSL1 type reported during 2011, which is from Daman district of Kandahar province. This is female child of age 38 month with onset of paralysis on January 11, 2011. The child has history of receiving 4 doses of OPV, all received through Supplementary Immunization Activities-SIAs

During year 2010, the AFP surveillance system reported 25 polio cases of which 17 are of type 1, and 8 of type 3. Twenty one of these 25 cases (84%) are from the Southern part of the country which includes Farah province of the Western region, while the rest of the cases are reported from the Eastern and Northeastern Regions.

Confirmed Polio case Afghanistan 2011



Distribution of the confirmed cases *by province* in 2010 and *district* were as follows: 11 from Kandahar (5 in Maywand, 3 in Shahwalikot, 2 in Kandahar and 1 in Spinboldak districts); 7 from Helmand (3 in Nadali, 2 in Lashkergah, 1 in Sangin and 1 in Nawa-i-Barakzai districts); 1 from Mizan district of Zabol province;2 from Farah province (1 in Balablook and 1

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Acting Health Minister launched March nationwide Polio immunization campaign

The first nationwide round of polio immunization campaign during 13-15 March, 2011, targeting 7.2 million children under 5 years of age was launched across the country. Acting Minister of Public Health Her Excellency

Dr. Suraya Dalil along with Mrs Fatima Gailani, President of the Afghan Red Crescent Society launched the campaign by administering polio drops and Albendazole tablets to children less than 5 years in Ibnisina Emergency Hospital Kabul.



Acting Health Minister signed MoU with ARCS President, during inauguration ceremony of the country-wide polio vaccination campaign in Kabul

This is a huge operation which covers all villages and provides a unique opportunity to Afghan families to get their children vaccinated against Polio and be in contact with the health workers "said Dr. Suraya Dalil, Minister of Public Health of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. "We request all Afghans, health workers and health partners to provide any kind of help and support to this process so that all target children can be vaccinated in the coming 3 days" She added.

De-worming tablets are also added with OPV in this round to cure worms infestation.

WHO, UNICEF, along with USAID, CIDA and JICA representatives also joined the event.

Supplementary Immunization Activities (NIDs and SNIDs) - Update

January SNIDs, were conducted during January 30th to 1st February 2011 in Southern, Southeastern, Eastern Regions and Farah province of Western Region.

In this round, 3 million children were targeted and bivalent OPV (bOPV) was administered in all planned areas. A total of 21,742 service providers, including 260 District Coordinators, 1,517 Cluster Supervisors, 17,768 Volunteers, 697 Monitors and 1,500 Community Mobilizers (Mullahs, Teachers, Courtyard Women and CHWs) were involved.

Various advocacy, media and social mobilization activities were conducted before and during the campaign, with the mobilization of local electronic, cable and print media.

In Post campaign coverage assessment exercise based on finger marking the coverage was 84.4% at the country level. The regional coverage was as follows: Eastern Region 96%, Southeastern Region 96%, Southern Region 77%, and Farah Province 87%.

Analysis of southern region by province was as follows: 67% in Kandahar, 75% in Helmand, 63% in Uruzgan, 72% in Nimroz and 61% in Zabul.

Analysis of communication indicators, using PCA data shows that 67% of the respondents were aware of the campaign.

During this round, the program could not access 95,217 children aged under 5 years due, which accounts for almost 3.2% of the total target for SNIDs.

Inaccessible children were reported from Southern (72,423), Eastern (13,858) and Farah province (8,936) of Western Region. The problem of inaccessibility was significantly more serious in the Southern Region.

Areas planned during SNID Jan 30th -1st Feb,2011 Afghanistan



March NIDs (National Immunization Days) were conducted during 13-15 March 2011 across Afghanistan, except those districts which were covered by snow (Cold Districts) and was inaccessible in this round.

Bivalent OPV (bOPV) was used in this round to target 7.2 million children less than 5 years of age. Deworming tablets were also administered to 4.7 million target children between 24-59 months of age.

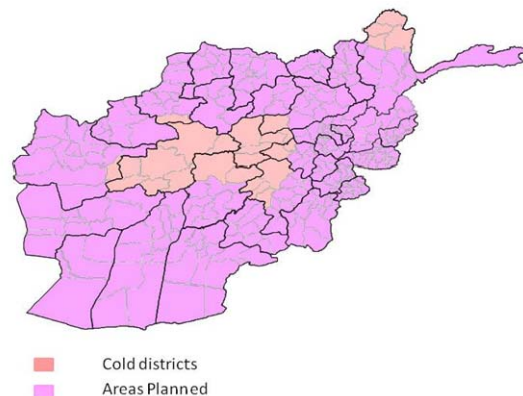
Bargimatal district of Nooristan province which was not accessible since March 2010 was covered for the second time

In Post campaign coverage assessment exercise based on finger marking the coverage achieved was 91% at the country level.

Results of PCA survey at the regional level was 96% in the Central Region, 94% in Eastern Region, 96% in Southeastern Region, 92% in Western Region, 96% in Northern Region and 97% in Northeastern Region, Southern Region 79%.

Analysis of the Southern Region by province was as follows: 72% in Kandahar, 76% in Helmand, 64% in Uruzgan, 83% in Nimroz and 71% in Zabul.

March NIDs 2011, Areas planned and cold districts Afghanistan



During March NID, the Program was not able to access 179,026 children which are almost 2.3% of the total target of the whole country.

Inaccessible children are reported from three regions South (162,694), East (15,077), and Farah province (1,200) of Western region.

The reason for this increase is that it is the first time that campaign was not allowed by AGEs in Arghandab, Mezan, Shinkay, Shajoy and Jaldak districts of Zabul province. The total numbers of children in these districts are almost 73,000.

Post campaign coverage assessment by district based on finger marking data

March NIDs and Jan-Feb SNIDs campaign, 2011.

Region	PROVINCE	DISTRICT	Target Pop	Total Clusters	Clusters reviewed	March NIDs			Jan SNIDs	
						Clusters <95	% of Clusters < 95	Range	% of Clusters <95	Range
Badakhshan	Badakhshan	Fayz Abad	62456	41	26	4	15	88-100		
Central	Kabul	Dih Sabz	14536	12	8	2	25	92-99		
Central	Kabul	Istalif	16623	9	8	1	13	92-100		
Central	Kabul	Kabul	561312	326	236	75	32	56-100		
Central	Kabul	Mir Bacha Ko	10554	5	4	1	25	91-99		
Central	Kabul	Musayi	6691	4	3	1	33	92-99		
Central	Kabul	Paghman	32861	20	16	3	19	94-100		
Central	Kabul	Qarabagh	19379	11	8	1	13	91-100		
Central	Kapisa	Koh Band	9145	8	8	1	13	92-100		
Central	Kapisa	Kohistan	23975	16	16	2	13	82-100		
Central	Kapisa	Mahmud Raqi	44855	16	16	3	19	85-100		
Central	Kapisa	Tagab	20466	15	15	2	13	93-99		
Central	Logar	Baraki Barak	23449	9	8	1	13	95-97		
Central	Logar	Charkh	20132	11	9	1	11	94-99		
Central	Parwan	Bagram	21752	10	8	4	50	91-99		
Central	Parwan	Chaharikar	34172	13	7	2	29	90-99		
Central	Parwan	Panjsher	15950	14	10	2	20	87-100		
Central	Parwan	Shinwari	11096	7	7	3	43	93-100		
Western	Hirat	Chishti Shar	12086	8	4	1	25	95-100		
Western	Hirat	Hirat	149052	43	40	5	13	90-100		
Western	Hirat	Injil	65746	24	19	1	5	95-100		
Western	Hirat	Pashtun Zarg	36308	14	10	2	20	94-100		
North	Balkh	Chimtal	24589	15	8	3	38	91-100		
North	Balkh	Nahri Shahi	17425	8	4	2	50	87-98		
North	Balkh	Sholgara	30458	16	8	1	13	91-100		
North	Balkh	Shortepa	12039	6	3	1	33	93-100		
North	Faryab	Bilchiragh	37890	12	7	1	14	95-100		
North	Faryab	Khawaja Sabz Posh	9963	5	3	2	67	93-95		
North	Faryab	Maymana	21670	8	4	1	25	95-99		
North	Faryab	Pashtun Kot	17840	19	10	3	30	92-100		
North	Faryab	Qaysar	36557	13	7	2	29	93-100		
North	Jawzjan	Khawaja Du Ko	5717	4	2	1	50	94-100		
North	Samangan	Aybak	32159	18	15	3	20	91-100		
North	Samangan	Hazrati Sult	10962	10	6	1	17	92-100		
North	Sari Pul	Sangcharak	42626	18	9	1	11	94-100		
North	Sari Pul	Sari Pul	40448	20	10	1	10	95-100		
North	Sari Pul	Sozma Qala	19976	11	6	1	17	95-100		
Northeast	Baghlan	Burka	19320	19	18	5	28	88-100		
Northeast	Baghlan	Khinjan	9009	9	6	1	17	95-100		
Northeast	Baghlan	Nahrin	21486	13	13	4	31	74-100		
Northeast	Kunduz	Ali Abad	18507	8	8	1	13	94-100		
Northeast	Kunduz	Archi	28629	12	12	1	8	88-100		
Northeast	Kunduz	Chahar Dara	22416	9	9	3	33	90-100		
Northeast	Kunduz	Imam Sahib	78034	26	19	6	32	90-100		
Northeast	Kunduz	Khan Abad	56425	21	18	4	22	68-100		
Northeast	Takhar	Bangi	7632	5	2	1	50	92-96		
Northeast	Takhar	Chah Ab	22327	12	12	4	33	84-99		
Northeast	Takhar	Chal	10129	5	5	1	20	93-100		
Northeast	Takhar	Warsaj	13964	12	12	3	25	91-100		
Eastern	Kunar	Chapa Dara	6287	6	3	2	67	73-98	0	98-99
Eastern	Kunar	Khas Kunar	8920	6	3	0	0	98-100	33	0-99
Eastern	Kunar	Nari	8164	6	4	0	0	96-98	25	93-100
Eastern	Kunar	Nurgal	8858	8	2	0	0	100-100	50	95-100
Eastern	Laghman	Alishing	20594	12	8	0	0	95-99	13	92-98
Eastern	Laghman	Qarghayi	29868	12	10	1	10	94-100	11	94-100
Eastern	Nangarhar	Chaparhar	13837	9	6	1	17	92-98	0	99-100
Eastern	Nangarhar	Dur Baba	6150	6	4	1	25	95-99	0	95-99
Eastern	Nangarhar	Hisarak	8671	9	4	1	25	94-98	0	98-99
Eastern	Nangarhar	Kama	18712	7	4	0	0	100-100	75	82-97
Eastern	Nangarhar	Muhmand Dara	17140	8	8	0	0	98-100	14	90-100
Eastern	Nangarhar	Nazyan	4868	7	4	1	25	95-96	0	99-100
Eastern	Nangarhar	Rodat	22149	11	11	1	9	93-100	0	96-100
Eastern	Nangarhar	Surkh Rod	30613	15	8	1	13	92-98	13	92-98
Eastern	Nuristan	Mandol	6817	6	6	1	17	94-97	0	97-98

Grey colour indicates districts not included in Jan SNIDs

Post campaign coverage assessment by district based on finger marking data

March NIDs and Jan-Feb SNIDs campaign, 2011.

Region	PROVINCE	DISTRICT	Target Pop	Total Clusters	Clusters re-viewed	March NIDs			Jan SNIDs	
						Clusters <95	% of Clusters < 95	Range	% of Clusters <95	Range
Southeastern	Ghazni	Ab Band	8467	4	3	1	33	95-96	33	94-96
Southeastern	Ghazni	Andar	37189	12	6	1	17	94-97	0	95-98
Southeastern	Ghazni	Dih Yak	11139	4	3	1	33	94-97	0	95-99
Southeastern	Ghazni	Ghazni	46624	13	12	0	0	95-97	17	94-98
Southeastern	Ghazni	Giro	9661	4	3	1	33	92-98	33	95-98
Southeastern	Ghazni	Nawa	11107	6	6	0	0	96-97	33	95-98
Southeastern	Ghazni	Qarabagh	38029	13	6	1	17	95-99	0	96-98
Southeastern	Khost	Bak	7506	3	3	0	0	95-99	100	94-94
Southeastern	Khost	Gurbuz	8750	3	4	2	50	93-97	0	97-97
Southeastern	Paktika	Barmal	12309	6	2	0	0	95-97	50	95-96
Southeastern	Paktika	Zarghun Shah	19100	9	4	0	0	96-98	25	94-98
Southeastern	Paktya	Dand Wa Pata	7323	6	4	1	25	94-100	0	97-100
Southeastern	Paktya	Gardez	26363	9	5	1	20	64-100	20	76-100
Southeastern	Paktya	Shwak	5584	5	2	0	0	96-96	50	95-97
Southeastern	Paktya	Zurmat	28729	14	9	1	11	93-100	22	93-100
Southern	Hilmand	Baghran	37053	14	24	14	58	89-97	50	88-97
Southern	Hilmand	Dishu	5516	6	6	3	50	93-96	17	95-96
Southern	Hilmand	Garmser	37312	14	14	3	21	94-98	29	89-97
Southern	Hilmand	Kajaki	36748	16	16	7	44	94-98	38	93-97
Southern	Hilmand	Lashkar Gah	59234	22	22	4	18	93-99	68	28-98
Southern	Hilmand	Musa Qala	54028	21	21	8	38	90-98	14	92-99
Southern	Hilmand	Nad Ali	80231	37	33	30	91	72-95	94	76-97
Southern	Hilmand	Naw Zad	35787	18	23	13	57	92-98	100	89-95
Southern	Hilmand	Naway i Bara	39289	12	12	4	33	92-97	50	89-97
Southern	Hilmand	Reg	7122	4	6	2	33	94-96	0	95-96
Southern	Hilmand	Sangin	35062	14	14	8	57	93-96	57	92-97
Southern	Hilmand	Washer	11742	8	7	7	100	64-88	100	53-78
Southern	Kandahar	Arghandab-K	26077	10	10	10	100	88-95	100	90-94
Southern	Kandahar	Argistan	10653	11	11	5	45	87-99	55	84-96
Southern	Kandahar	Daman	14035	13	13	5	38	90-96	38	89-97
Southern	Kandahar	Ghorak	6500	5	5	5	100	82-89	100	91-93
Southern	Kandahar	Kandahar	174703	73	73	12	16	64-100	11	77-100
Southern	Kandahar	Khakrez	9520	7	7	5	71	90-98	0	96-98
Southern	Kandahar	Maywand	24955	31	21	21	100	66-92	71	58-97
Southern	Kandahar	Panjwayi	40572	13	13	12	92	82-95	100	83-88
Southern	Kandahar	Reg	633	2	2	2	100	83-86	100	86-87
Southern	Kandahar	Shah Wali Ko	44031	18	16	16	100	44-91	100	45-92
Southern	Kandahar	Shorabak	2290	5	5	5	100	90-93	100	57-90
Southern	Kandahar	Spin Boldak	32085	21	21	18	86	71-97	95	78-95
Southern	Nimroz	Chakhansur	5640	4	4	2	50	90-96	67	95-99
Southern	Nimroz	Kang	6573	5	5	0	0	95-100	80	92-95
Southern	Nimroz	Khash Rod	16662	11	11	9	82	77-97	64	83-96
Southern	Nimroz	Zaranj	19089	8	9	2	22	64-99	33	91-100
Southern	Uruzgan	Chora	20251	12	9	9	100	80-88	100	79-91
Southern	Uruzgan	Dihrawud	23025	15	15	15	100	61-90	100	83-95
Southern	Uruzgan	Gizab	22403	18	17	17	100	81-90	100	79-92
Southern	Uruzgan	Khas Uruzgan	20993	16	16	16	100	89-92	100	88-93
Southern	Uruzgan	Kijran	21771	24	24	3	13	94-98	4	93-99
Southern	Uruzgan	Nesh	7919	6	6	6	100	80-93	67	91-98
Southern	Uruzgan	Shahidi Hass	21548	12	12	12	100	85-93	100	53-70
Southern	Uruzgan	Tirin Kot	33126	23	14	14	100	78-93	100	55-92
Southern	Zabul	Atghar	3578	7	7	6	86	89-97	91	89-95
Southern	Zabul	Daychopan	20708	18	10	3	30	93-97	0	95-99
Southern	Zabul	Qalat	12298	8	7	3	43	94-99	28	93-97
Southern	Zabul	Shamulzayi	22547	16	9	7	78	92-99	63	92-99
Southern	Zabul	Qalat	12298	8	Not covered				38	93-100
Southern	Zabul	Shahjoy	26892	15	Not covered				20	94-100
Southern	Zabul	Shamulzayi	22547	16	Not covered				56	91-97
Southern	Zabul	Shinkay	8642	10	Not covered				50	89-97
Southern	Zabul	Tarnak Wa Ja (Jaldak)	7401	7	Not covered				14	95-98
Western	Farah	Anar Dara	10358	6	6	5	83	81-99	33	94-98
Western	Farah	Bala Buluk	23211	13	12	8	67	24-100	77	0-100
Western	Farah	Farah	27616	12	15	7	47	56-100	27	36-100
Western	Farah	Khaki Safed	9177	6	16	3	19	83-100	50	93-97
Western	Farah	Lash Wa Juwa	8242	5	5	2	40	78-99	20	93-100
Western	Farah	Pusht Rod	27616	5	7	4	57	84-100	75	76-97
Western	Farah	Qalay-I-Kah	8076	5	5	1	20	95-100	0	96-100

Priorities and Strategies 2011, PEI Afghanistan

The WHO country office, Kabul organized a two day Annual Review and Planning meeting to assess the overall status of polio eradication efforts in the country and plan for 2011 at the WHO office Kabul on February 13 – 14, 2011.

The meeting was participated by Dr Faizullah Kakar, Advisor to the President on Health and education, Dr. Bruce Aylward, Director Global PEI, Dr Tahir Pervaiz Mir, Regional Advisor Polio, Dr. Rudi Tangermann (WHO HQ), Peter Graff, WR Afghanistan, Dr Ahmad Shadoul (acting WR), Peter Crowley, Country Director UNICEF, Dr Mashal, DGH (Preventive), representatives from the Partners, like CIDA, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, USAID, BPHS NGOS, Medical officers (polio), Regional Polio officers (RPOs), Assistant Regional Polio Officer (ARPOs) and Provincial Polio Officers (PPOs) from all over the country.

Based on epidemiological situation, review of measures taken and their degree of success and failures, PEI program outlined 8 important priority areas to reach the goal of stopping poliovirus circulation.

Priority Area 1: 13 High Risk Districts (Southern Region): Challenges and interventions 2011-12:

Distribution of confirmed polio cases shows that circulation of poliovirus is confined to 13 districts of Southern region. These districts are labeled as “high-risk” because epidemiological data for the last 3 or more years shows that most (80-90%) of the confirmed cases were reported from these districts.

A new approach of “High Risk Cluster Approach” (HRCA) will be adapted within each of the high risk districts to enhance focusing sub-district level campaign related issues. High risk cluster is defined as an area with persistently low campaign coverage, reported Zero Dose AFP cases and or reported confirmed cases. In addition number of inaccessible children and refusals will also be considered while labeling for HRCA.

New tactics including Short Interval Additional Dose (SIAD) will be used in high risk district or in high risk clusters within the 13 HRDs, with a more flexible approach. Any window of opportunity in those areas as identified by local team and community elders, will be used for SIAD. Local teams has to be ready in advance to avail such opportunity.

Accelerated routine EPI activities with introduction of other “adds on” will also be adapted in these areas

Special Communication plans to be implemented for 13 HRDs in general and for HRCA in particular

Priority Area 2: Maintaining PEI Services under difficult and escalating insecurity Situations:

Quality of PEI services is often compromised in difficult and escalating insecurity situation. PEI data shows that most of the confirmed cases of Polio in 2009 and 2010 belong to security compromised areas (Kandahar and Helmand provinces in South and Farah province in West)

Priority Area 3: Ensuring PEI Services among groups of mobile populations:

Mobile/ special population groups like Nomads, IDPs, Returnees, Camps and other travelling groups constitute high risk groups and potential source of spread of virus from one place to other. For variety of reasons such groups remain partially or totally away from benefits of immunization, surveillance and other health services. Some of these groups move through non-traditional routes; stay transiently in/ around big settlements while moving for remote areas where they are difficult to be regularly tracked as per needs of PEI

Priority Area 4: Strengthening community-based AFP surveillance system:

Priority Area 5: Preparedness and Response plan for non transmission areas of the country:

In order to respond to occurrence of polio case in most parts of the country without evidence of poliovirus circulation, there is a need to have standardized preparedness plan to respond immediately and effectively

Priority Area 6: Strengthening Routine EPI through PEI network:

Priority Area 7: Improving quality of supervision and Independent Monitoring:

Priority Area 8: Advocacy, strengthen coordination and building partnerships:



Staff Annual Planning Meeting chaired by HE Dr Faizullah Kakar Advisor to HE President Islamic state of Afghanistan on Health and Education

AFP Surveillance performance indicators as of 03 April, 2011

Analysis of AFP surveillance indicators at national and regional levels show that the system is achieving its desired target levels of non-Polio AFP rates among children aged below 15 years and are able to obtain the desired percentage of adequate specimens.

AFP surveillance indicators by regions, Afghanistan 2011

Region	Exp @ 2	NP/AFP rate	% AFP cases detected in 7 days of paralysis	No M/F	Stool ADEQ %	Median OPV doses AFP cases < 60 m	NP/AFP cases Age range	EV%	SL%
Badakhshan	10	11	73	6/9	100	17	(10-168)	7	0
Central	66	7	92	30/33	100	11	(8-168)	10	0
Eastern	31	8	97	21/14	100	18	(6-144)	14	3
Northeastern	40	10	83	22/30	92	11	(1-156)	10	0
Northern	49	11	86	44/35	91	13	(3-171)	6	5
South East	36	6	93	19/12	93	20	(2-144)	19	6
Southern	60	6	67	33/23	92	4	(1-132)	13	4
Western	57	9	96	42/36	97	11	(1-168)	4	5
Afghanistan	349	8	87	217/192	95	13	(1-171)	9	3

REC APR 03, 2010

Overall, the early case detection rate at the national level (cases detected within 7 days of the onset of paralysis) remained above 80%. More than 87% of cases have been reported within 7 days of the onset of paralysis in each region except in the Southern Region, which was 67% and Badakhshan province which is 73%.

Median OPV doses administered to the AFP cases this year (children aged under 5 years) were 13 and their age range was 1-171 months. The percentage of specimens with *enterovirus isolate* was 9%, at the national level, with a distribution range between 4-19%. Sabin-like (SL) poliovirus was

also isolated from at least 3% of specimens at the national level ranging from 0-6% at the regional level.

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Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) Surveillance Update

... Khaki-Safed districts); 3 from Nangarhar (1 in Shinwar, 1 in Surkhrud and 1 in Lalpoora districts) and 1 from the Imam Sahib district of Kunduz province. 18 of the total number of confirmed cases (72%) occurred among children below 2 years of age. Median age is 18 months, within a range of 4-144 months

The routine OPV status among 14 of the polio cases was found to be zero, while 8 cases had not received any dose in routine EPI or in SIAs.

Median OPV dose was 4, ranging between 0-24 doses. Proportion of confirmed male to female cases was 56%:44%. Five cases have been labeled as polio compatible by the National Expert Review Committee. They are from Gizab district (2 cases) in Uruzgan, Nawzad district (1 case) and Nadali district (2 cases) in Helmand province.

Global Polio Update, Data as of 03 Apr 2010 for 2010 data and 02 Apr 2011 for 2011 data

86 confirmed cases have been reported globally in 2011 (33 cases from endemic countries and 53 from non-endemic countries) compared with 56 for the same period in 2010. The cases are: DR Congo-28, Pakistan-26 Chad-20, Nigeria 5, Angola-2, and 1 each from Congo, Niger, Gabon, India, and Afghanistan.

For details, please visit: www.polioeradication.org



Afghanistan Polio Eradication
newsletter

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