



WILD POLIO VIRUS CASES IN NIGERIA

In accordance with our mandate to advocate for better care for all Nigerians, the Health Reform Foundation of Nigeria (HERFON) is committed to identifying areas of poor performance within the health sector and working with stakeholders to find lasting solutions. As part of our strategy to hold our policymakers accountable, HERFON will publish a series of articles on various high profile health issues. A topical Health scorecard, that puts the spotlight on the performance of those we have elected to represent us, will be serially published to empower consumers to demand for health reforms.

Wild Polio Virus Transmission

Nigeria is not currently projected to meet the MDG4 by 2015, immunizations are currently the most cost-effective health intervention. One of the vaccine-preventable diseases is Polio, which has been known to cause Spinal Polio, leading to irreversible leg paralysis and Bulbar Polio, which may lead to the victim spending the rest of their life in an iron lung. For as little as \$0.60 worth of vaccine, a child can be protected.

The last indigenous case of Wild Polio Virus was last seen over twenty years ago in the WHO's Region of the Americas. However, the picture for Nigeria remains unfortunately very bleak. Nigeria is listed amongst the last 4 nations where Polio is still endemic. As of September 13th, 2011 the number of Wild Polio Virus cases recorded in Nigeria is now 25, is up 400% from 6 recorded in 2010, according to the World Health Organization. Low coverage levels (<60%) and high drop-out rates for the Polio Multi-Dose vaccine are responsible for the persistence of transmission levels (NPHCDA 2011).

In April 2011 the Global Polio Eradication Initiative Independent Monitoring Board (IMB) confirmed that Nigeria was not on track to achieve the goal of interruption of wild poliovirus transmission by end 2011.

The IMB however noted that Nigeria had the potential to get back on track should implementation of identified priority activities be expedited and gaps in vaccination and surveillance rapidly addressed.

The 25 cases of wild polio for the year to date have been listed alongside the newly elected and re-elected government officials at each level. We are depending on these officials that have the majesty of their distinguished offices and the attendant influence at their disposal, to deliver the much talked about “dividends of democracy” to those who voted them in and who pay taxes with the expectation of good and responsive governance.

According to a myriad of Public health articles published in the last few years, coverage for routine immunization has remained below set targets due to the following factors:

1. Poor Primary Health Care Infrastructure – Local Government Chairman responsible
2. Inadequate PHC Human Resources for Health – Local Government Chairman responsible
3. Poor operational management of immunization services – Local Government Chairman responsible
4. Poor community demand for services – Local Government Chairman responsible
5. Inadequate funding for procurement of Vaccines – State Governor responsible
6. Inadequate Cold Chain Integrity and Storage – State Governor responsible
7. Poor access roads to rural areas – State Governor responsible
8. Passage of supporting Health legislation and budget appropriations – Legislators and Senators responsible
9. Frequent National vaccine stock-outs and lack of a coherent advocacy and communication strategy for routine immunization – Federal Government responsible

Our National Dailies were inundated with pictures in early September of the Governors administering oral polio doses in the mouths of children as they launched their “War on Polio”. We are hopeful that lip service is not being paid to this very important issue. These Governors must commit tangibly to Child Survival by the interruption of Wild Polio Virus. Their influence over the Local Government Chairmen is palpable and can be leveraged to improve performance at the LG level. Extended access road networks to local communities, increased health care budget allocations and release, capacity building for improved operational management of immunization services as well as adequate investment in cold storage equipment are recommended areas for immediate intervention.

Leadership is about Accountability. Leaders in Nigeria have an immediate opportunity to prove their commitment to the eradication of polio.

We can do better!

By **THE HEALTH REFORM FOUNDATION OF NIGERIA (HERFON)**

Advocating for better health for all Nigerians.

5	U. A.	Type 3	Kebbi Gwandu LG	Nasamu Dakingari	Alh. Mohammed Dangi Juli Yole	Alh. Hassan Muh' d Salla	Alh. Abubakar Atiku Bagudu Kebbi Central	Alh. Umaru Halilu Aliero Aliero,Gwandu.Jega
6	A. A.	Type 3	Kebbi Yauri LG	Nasamu Dakingari	Umar Abdullah	Aminu Musa Gumbi	Gen . Muhammad Magoro (Rtd) Kebbi South	Hajia Halima Hassan Tukur Yauri/Shanga/Nga ski
7	X.X.	Type 3	Kebbi Bagudo LG	Nasamu Dakingari	Mohamed Samaila	Nafiyu Aliyu Bagudo	Alhaji Isah Galaudu Kebbi North	Hon Bello Kaoje Bagudo/Suru
KANO STATE - 6 CASES (2nd HIGHEST)								
1	Z.A.	Type 3	KANO D/WK TOFA LG	Kwankwanso	Muhammad Tato Gaya	Sale Ahmed Marke	Bello Hayatu Gwarzo Kano North Senatorial District	Engr. Tijjani Abdulkadir Jobe Dawakin Tofa/ Rimin Gado
2	N.S.	Type 3	KANO D/WK TOFA LG	Kwankwanso	Muhammad Tato Gaya	Sale Ahmed Marke	Bello Hayatu Gwarzo Kano North Senatorial District	Engr. Tijjani Abdulkadir Jobe Dawakin Tofa/ Rimin Gado

3	M.M.	Type 1	KANO KUMBOTSO LG	Kwankwanso	Shuaibu Musa Umar	Alh. Naziru Zakari Sheka	Bashir Lado Garba Kumbotso senatorial District	Mannir Babba Dan Agundi Kumbotso Federal Constituency
4	A.Y.	Type 1	KANO KUMBOTSO LG	Kwankwanso	Shuaibu Musa Umar	Alh. Naziru Zakari Sheka	Bashir Lado Garba Kumbotso Senatorial District	Mannir Babba Dan Agundi Kumbotso Federal Constituency
5	H. M.	Type 1	KANO KUMBOTSO LG	Kwankwanso	Shuaibu Musa Umar	Alh. Naziru Zakari Sheka	Bashir Lado Garba Kumbotso Senatorial District	Mannir Babba Dan Agundi Kumbotso Federal Constituency
6	F.M.	Type 1	KANO KUMBOTSO LG	Kwankwanso	Shuaibu Musa Umar	Alh. Naziru Zakari Sheka	Bashir Lado Garba Kumbotso Senatorial District	Mannir Babba Dan Agundi Kumbotso Federal Constituency
BORNO STATE – 4 CASES (3rd HIGHEST)								
1.	Z.Y.	Type 3	Borno Kukawa LG	Kashim Shettima	Alhaji Lawan Yarayi	Alhaji Haruna Kukawa	Alhaji Maina Ma*aji Lawan Northern Borno	Isa Lawan Kangarwa Kukawa, Guzamala, Abadam and Mobbar

2	J.I.	Type 1	Borno Maiduguri LG	Kashim Shettima	Metropolitan Council- Alhaji Waziri Imam	. Alhaji Abubakar Tujani	Khalifa Ahmed Zanna Borno Central	Kaka Kyari Gujbawu. Maiduguri,Fed.Constituency
3	M.S.	Type 1	Borno Marte LG/Alamduri	Kashim Shettima	Alhaji Abba Mamman	Alhaji Shettima Kullima	Northern Borno Maina Ma"aji Lawan Northern Borno	Mohammed Tahir Monguno Marte,Monguno,Nganzai Fed. Constituency
4	M.B.	Type 1	Borno Marte LG/Alamduri	Kashim Shettima	Alhaji Abba Mamman	Alhaji Shettima Kullima	Maina Ma"aji Lawan Northern Borno	Mohammed Tahir Monguno Marte,Monguno,Nganzai Fed. Constituency
JIGAWA STATE – 3 CASES (4th HIGHEST)								
1	A.G.	Type1	JIGAWA Guri LG	Sule Lamido	Abdullahi Bulama Zugo	Muhamma d Umar Soni	AbdulAziz Usman Jigawa North East	Hon. Adamu Hassan Abunabo Guri/ Birniwa/ Kiri-kasamma
2	A.A.	Type1	JIGAWA Guri LG	Sule Lamido	Abdullahi Bulama Zugo	Muhamma d Umar Soni	AbdulAziz Usman Jigawa North East	Hon. Adamu Hassan Abunabo Guri/ Birniwa/ Kiri-kasamma
3	Z.	Type1	JIGAWA Roni LG	<u>Sule Lamido</u>	Alh. Bako Muhammad	Babangida Sardo	Alh. Danladi Sankara Jigawa North West	Bashir Adamu Jumbo Roni/Gwiwa

SOKOTO STATE – 3 CASES (4th HIGHEST)

1	N.S.	Type 3	SOKOTO ISA LG	Aliyu Wamakko	Umar Muhammad	Mustapha Aliyu Gatau	Engr Ibrahim Abdullahi Sokoto East Senatorial District	Shuaibu Gwanda Gobir Isa/Sabon Birni Constituency
2	D.	Type 1	SOKOTO SABON BIRNI LG	Aliyu Wamakko	Idris Muhammad	Haruna Dauda, (Sabon/birnin north) 2. Sumaila Salihu Gangara (South)	Engr Ibrahim Abdullahi Sokoto East Senatorial District	Shuaibu Gwanda Gobir Isa/Sabon Birni Constituency
3	A.B.	Type 1	SOKOTO WAMAKO LG	Aliyu Wamakko	Alh. Ahmed Abdullahi .K	Murtala Maigana Wamako	Ahmed Muhammed Macido Sokoto Central senatorial district 2	Alhaji Abdullahi Wamako Wamako/Kware constituency