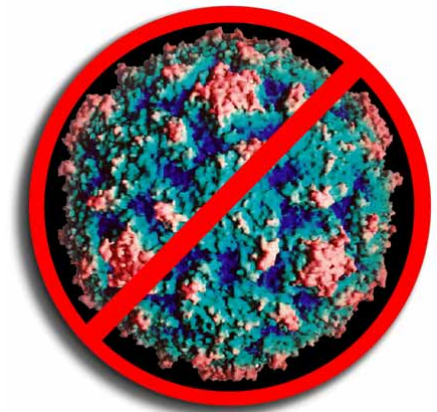


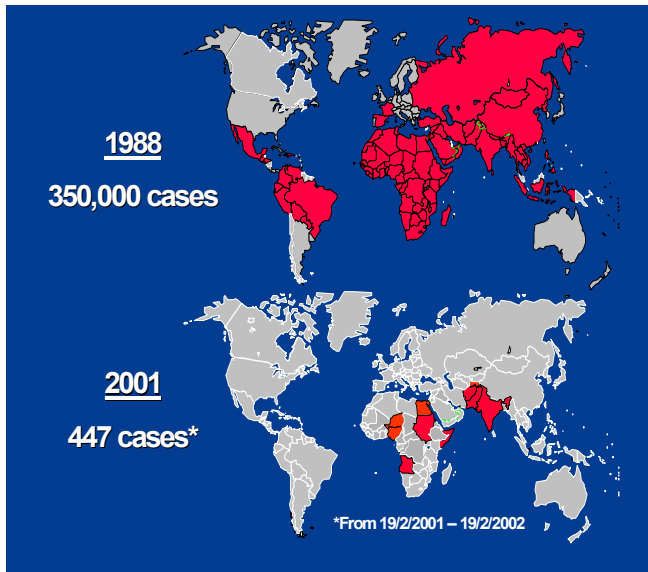
Poliovirus Laboratory Containment Preparedness

Part II

Frequent Questions from Laboratory Managers



Progress in Polio Eradication



National Vaccine Program Office

Department of Health and Human Services



The pamphlet answers commonly asked questions about poliovirus laboratory containment and provides additional sources of information.

1. Why have we received a survey form? Our laboratory does not work with polioviruses.

All biomedical laboratories are included because many may be unaware they have materials in which wild polioviruses might be present.

2. Our laboratory has no such materials. Do we need to return the survey form?

Yes. It is essential to document that all biomedical laboratories have responded to the survey.



3. Freezer/refrigerator inventory is a big job. How do I begin?

Review the current inventory lists to determine whether listed materials meet the criteria for wild poliovirus infectious or potential infectious materials (Biomedical Laboratory Worksheet – Appendix 1). Freezer/refrigerator storage space with incomplete inventories should be searched and brought up to date.

4. I have materials with incomplete records. What do I do with these materials?

Other laboratories have found the survey an opportunity to comply with good laboratory practices, retaining only those materials with complete information.

5. How do I dispose of unneeded wild poliovirus infectious/potential infectious materials?

All such materials should be destroyed by autoclaving.

6. I have destroyed all unneeded infectious/potential infectious materials, should I indicate this on the inventory form?

No. The survey consists of materials currently in storage.

7. If I destroy all wild poliovirus reference strains, what do I use for test controls?

Disposing of all unneeded materials is encouraged, but if poliovirus test controls are required, authenticated Sabin strains may be obtained from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the other recognized Culture Collections. For further information, inquire at <http://www.cdc.gov/od/nvpo/polio>.

8. Does the government need to know the number of wild poliovirus materials held in my laboratory?

Only the approximate number of samples is requested to determine the magnitude of the national poliovirus containment challenge in terms of numbers of laboratories and relative size of holdings.



9. What does it imply if my laboratory is listed on the national inventory?

You and your institution will be kept informed of poliovirus eradication progress, kept abreast of containment issues, and notified when post-eradication enhanced biosafety measures are to be implemented.

Additional polio eradication and laboratory containment information may be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/od/nvpo/polio>.