

Beed infant gets polio from vaccine

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Officials collect samples from infant's neighbourhood

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What is vaccine-derived polio virus?

According to WHO, oral polio vaccine contains a weakened vaccine-virus. This replicates in the intestine and develops immunity by building up antibodies. During this time, it is also excreted. In areas of inadequate sanitation, it can spread. The virus can genetically change into a form that paralyses — this is known as the circulating vaccine-derived polio virus.

son transmits the virus to others, who also develop antibodies to polio, ultimately stopping transmission of poliovirus in a community.

Circulating VDPVs in the past have been rapidly stopped with 2-3 rounds of high-quality immunization campaigns. The solution is the same for all polio outbreaks: immunize every child several times regardless of the origin of the virus.

The infant is currently being treated at Latur's government medical college. WHO doctors have been stationed at his village for the past two days.

Aurangabad/Pune: An 11-month-old boy from Maharashtra's Beed district has been found infected with the vaccine derived polio virus (VDPV). This is the first such case in the state and third in the country since March 2012.

Health officials said the boy's stool sample tested positive for VDPV on June 1. "The child has been ill for prolonged periods, indicating the possibility of immunodeficiency," an official said. The discovery

► Samples collected, P 17

does not threaten India's polio-free status accorded recently. Detecting VDPV does not get enumerated when putting together a country's polio count.

Only infections caused by wild strains like P1 and P3 get counted, not P2 that causes VDPV infection. "Detailed follow-up investigations are being done. The child had high fever. He suffered paralysis in all four limbs and a bout of convulsion," said H V Wadgave, a district child health officer.

Aurangabad/Pune: The vaccine derived polio virus (VDPV) detected in an 11-month-old boy in Beed district has prompted district health authorities to initiate steps to contain its possible spread. Stool samples of the children and neighbours residing nearby will be sent to the National Institute of Virology, Pune, to rule out spread of the virus. "Around 45 samples from different age groups have been collected. Eight samples each from age groups 0-5 years, 5-10 years, 10-15 years and above 15 will be sent along with the samples of family members," said H V Wadgave, a district child health-care officer.

"Such a case of VDPV is found if the immunity of the child is low, it suffers from chronic illnesses of the heart or kidney or if it is severely malnourished. In such cases, the P2 virus mutates and can cause paralysis," he said. Oral polio vaccines contain a weakened version of poliovirus, activating an immune response in the body. A vaccinated per-