

Outbreak response in post-OPV2 withdrawal era

Strategic Advisory Group of Experts
(SAGE) on immunization,
Geneva, 22 October 2014

Request to SAGE

- Endorse the principles for outbreak response in post-OPV2 withdrawal era

Overview

- Introduction and background
 - Assumptions
 - WHA resolution on outbreak control
 - Modelling
- Principles of outbreak response
- Outbreak tools
- Other supporting measures
- Summary

Introduction



- In November 2013, SAGE reviewed the type 2 response strategy and requested the WG to draft the protocol for review by SAGE
- Following the request, WHO Secretariat drafted a Protocol for notification, risk assessment & response.

Outbreak protocol for post OPV2 era



**Protocol for notification, risk assessment,
and response following detection of
poliovirus type 2 following globally-
coordinated cessation of serotype 2-
containing oral polio vaccine**

(Draft version 14 October 2014)

- Detection
- Notification
- Risk assessment
- Response strategy and scope of response

B Burkholder & RAP

Assumptions

- *Having achieved:*
 - elimination of "persistent" cVDPVs
- *Maintaining:*
 - sensitive surveillance systems (globally)
 - outbreak response capacity
 - emergency funding in hand
- *Access to:*
 - a stockpile of adequate quantities of monovalent type 2 OPV (mOPV2) & access to substantial quantities of IPV
 - a rapid release / shipping mechanism for stockpile vaccine
 - emergency regulatory procedures for use

Background

- Resolution WHA 59.1 (2006) outlines the principles for outbreak control
- K Thompson et al (2006) demonstrated that *speed trumps quality*:
 - "We find that delay in response represents a crucial risk factor for occurrence of large outbreaks and we characterize the tradeoffs associated with delaying the initial response to achieve better population coverage."
- K Thompson et al (2014) suggest that the risk of *new cVDPV emergence* in areas with mass control activities is very low
- With Sabin type 2 withdrawal, new cohorts will have no (much reduced) mucosal immunity – time since OPV2 withdrawal becomes important
- IPV introduction will mitigate the risk of paralysis, but may have little impact on transmission

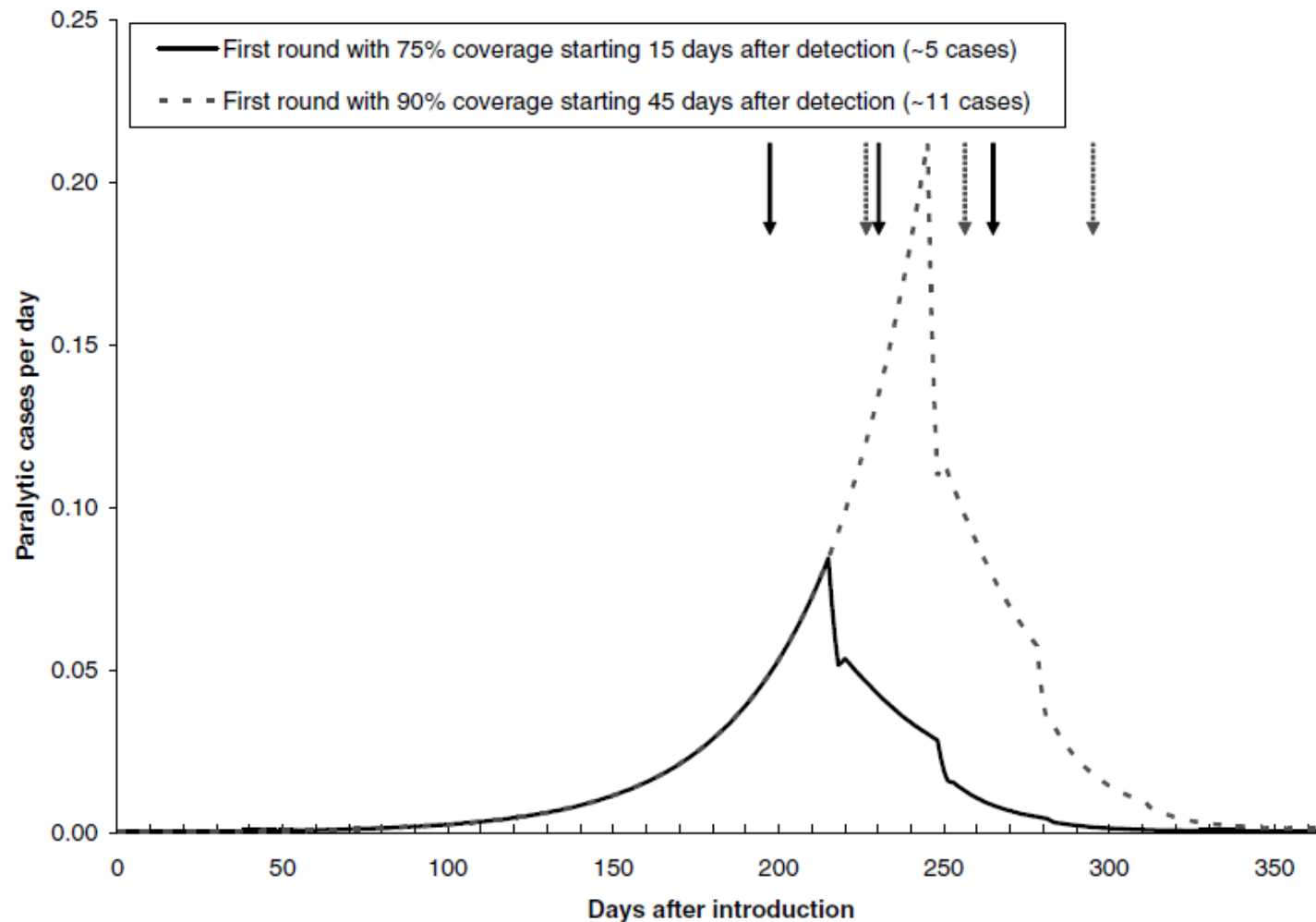
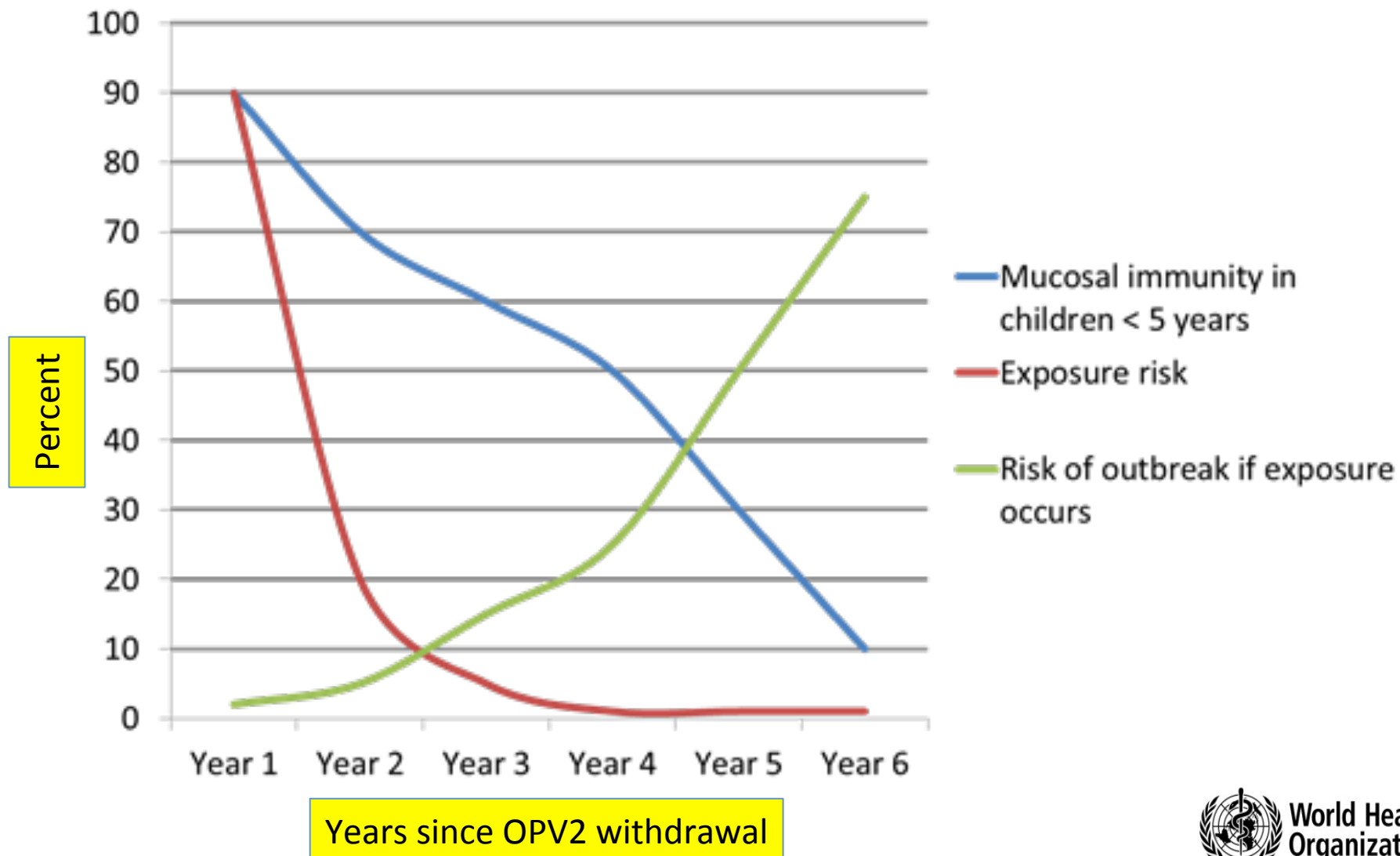
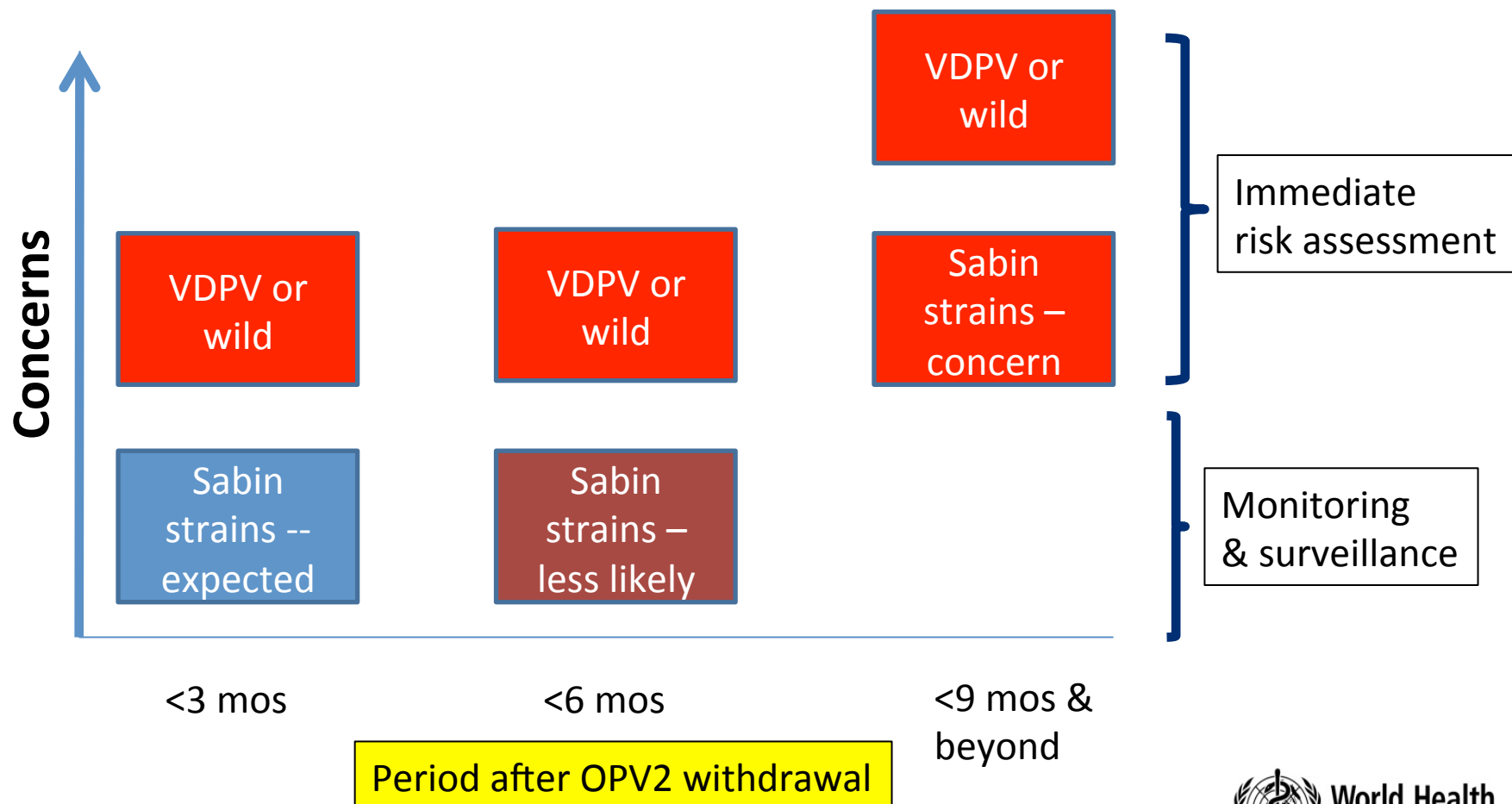


Fig. 2. Impact of a pre-OPV cessation response scenario with rapid first round in a low-income country with 10 million people, 50% routine OPV vaccination coverage, acute flaccid paralysis surveillance, and low-medium R_0 ($=10$), which conducted no supplemental immunization activities in the three years prior to the outbreak. Both response scenarios target children less than five years of age with mOPV and occur at 30-day intervals with the second and third rounds achieving 90% coverage. Arrows indicate the timing of response rounds.

cVDPV emergence and consequences



Transition after OPV withdrawal



Outbreak response

Existing (WHA 59.1 - 2006)

- *Starting point*: isolation of wild poliovirus or cVDPV
- *Initial investigation*: <72 hours
- *Principles*: ≥ 3 , type-specific, large-scale SIAs rounds, <5 years, 2-5 million minimum, $\geq 95\%$ coverage, 2 rounds after last case
- *Surveillance*: >2 cases/100,000 <15 yrs (duration + 12 mos afterwards)
- *Routine immunization coverage*: >80%

New (post-OPV2 withdrawal)

- *Starting point*: circulation of poliovirus
- *Risk assessment*: <48 hours
- *Principles*: Similar, but vaccine choice, age group dependent on epidemiology/assessment
- *Vaccine*: DG release mOPV2, advice of independent committee
- *Quarantine and/or travel restrictions*: Possible
- *Ring vaccination*: Outside outbreak area: Likely (IPV)

 Substantially different

Notification

- *Sensitive surveillance* & rapid notification are critical
- *Follow-up laboratory investigations*, especially sequencing guide outbreak control measures (Sabin, VDPV, iVDPV, cVDPV)
- *International Health Regulations:*
 - detection of any type 2 poliovirus must be reported
- *WHA 2015 resolution* to further emphasize rapid detection & reporting

Classification of poliovirus type 2 circulation

	Risk assessment	Potential risk for further transmission
Confirmed	detection of infected individual (s) –WPV or VDPV- without documented physical exposure to a virus in a laboratory or production facility	High
Probable	detection of genetically related viruses from ≥ 2 environmental samples consistent with circulation in the population	Medium
Possible	isolation of a type 2 virus in a single environmental sample or from an individual with documented exposure	Low

Control tools

- *Vaccines (active immunization):*
 - mOPV2 (mucosal immunity), IPV (boosting of mucosal immunity in previously OPV-vaccinated + humoral immunity in naïve)
- *Antivirals:*
 - Post-exposure prophylaxis, clearing of chronic infection (iVDPV), adjunct to other tools
- *Antibodies (passive immunization):*
 - Immediate protection against paralysis (monoclonal antibodies)

Response Strategy

Strategy	Confirmed	Probable		Possible
Assessment	Rapid assessment/response planning			Rapid assessment
Response	OPV in primary zone + IPV in adjacent risk areas	(cVDPV) OPV in primary zone+ IPV in adjacent risk areas	(iVDPV) IPV in primary response zone	Based on assessment
Surveillance	Enhance surveillance			Continue investigation and enhance surveillance

Scope of Outbreak Response

Phase	Zone 1: Clear history of sustained WPV or reported cVDPV2 since 2000; OR affected community with other risks for low immunity or high mobility to susceptible communities				Zone 2: Consistently low DTP3 coverage <80% in the previous 3 years; OR history of imported WPV or any cVDPV in the previous 3 years; OR with DTP3 coverage <90% and adjacent to affected area				Zone 3: DTP3 coverage consistently >80%; affected community with few risk factors for sustained transmission			
	Min age group (yrs.)	Min Target pop	Geographic scope beyond primary zone	Min # of SIA	Min age group (yrs.)	Min Target pop	Geographic scope beyond primary zone	Min # of SIA	Min age group (yrs.)	Min Target pop	Geographic scope beyond primary zone	Min # of SIA
Phase 1 (<2 years)	0-10	1 million	Extend widely to adjacent communities	3	0-5	1 million	Extent depends on links and risk factors of adjacent areas	3	0-5	Depend on situation	Extent depends on links and risk factors of adjacent areas	3
Phase 2 (3-5 years)	0-10	1 million		3	0-10	1 million		3	0-5			3
Phase 3 (6+ years)	0-15+	2 million		5	0-10	1 million		4	0-10	1 million		3

Other supplemental measures

- *Ring vaccination:*
 - Improve immunity around affected areas to decrease risk of generating new VDPVs
- *Vaccination for travellers:*
 - National & international travellers from outbreak area should be vaccinated before leaving
- *Quarantine:*
 - Measure of last resort (more feasible for exposed laboratory or vaccine production staff)
- *Surge / communications*

Summary & conclusions

- The time-tested and successful principles for outbreak control should be applied
- Population immunity, especially mucosal immunity begins to decrease, choice of vaccine, geographic areas, target age groups, also change with time
- The re-introduction risk of an eradicated agent (poliovirus type 2) must be weighted against the possible benefits & needs
- In general, a conservative approach to outbreak response appears warranted

Request to SAGE

- SAGE requested to endorse these principles for outbreak response in post-OPV2 withdrawal era

Thank you so much for your attention!