

POLIO



The data

Thirty years ago, polio paralyzed nearly **1,000 CHILDREN EVERY DAY** in the world.



The disease

- > Polio is a **HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS** disease caused by the poliovirus.
- > It mainly affects children **UNDER FIVE YEARS** of age.
- > There is **NO CURE**. The only option is prevention through vaccination.



Symptoms

- > Most people have **NO SYMPTOMS**.
- > 5 to 10 out of every 100 individuals infected with this virus may have **RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS**.
- > In 1 out of 200 infected people, poliovirus destroys parts of the **NERVOUS SYSTEM** and causes permanent **PARALYSIS** of the legs or arms.
- > Rarely, the virus can attack the parts of the **BRAIN** that help breathing, which can cause **DEATH**.



Transmission

- > Person-to-person, by the **FECAL-ORAL ROUTE** (contact with objects contaminated by infected feces).
- > More rarely by **RESPIRATORY SECRETIONS**.



Vaccines

- > Two types of polio vaccines:
 - > **ORAL VACCINE** with attenuated viruses (**OPV**)
 - > inactivated **INJECTABLE** vaccine (**IPV**).
- > Both vaccines are used in the Region of the Americas and are safe and effective.



Calendar

- > Primary Scheme: At least **2 DOSES** of **IPV** vaccine and **ONE DOSE** of **OPV** vaccine in the first year of life.
- > Countries have **DIFFERENT SCHEDULES** and in some, **IPV** is administered combined with other vaccines (e.g. Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis).