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Hundreds of Pakistani children hospitalized with nausea and vomiting, following polio vaccines

By JAMI GANZ

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Family member rush a boy to a hospital after receiving a polio vaccination, in Peshawar, Pakistan, Monday, April 22, 2019. Pakistani officials say hundreds of school children have been taken to hospitals complaining of nausea and vomiting after being given polio vaccinations. (Muhammad Sajjad/AP)

Pakistani children are being hospitalized by the hundreds following polio vaccinations, according to officials.

Those hospitalized have reportedly suffered vomiting and nausea.

The negative reactions led families of the afflicted to set fire to a Peshawar health facility, [according to AP](#).

Putting a stop to the disease has not been an easy task for the country, which has found its polio workers targeted by Islamic extremists, who have also fueled “conspiracy theories that the vaccinations are part of a Western plot to sterilize Muslims.”



A family member rushes a girl to a hospital in Peshawar, Pakistan, Monday, April 22, 2019. Pakistani officials say hundreds of school children have been

Wajid Ali, a polio worker, was the latest to be murdered as a result of his efforts to help eradicate the disease. Ali was shot and killed in northern Pakistan on April 8, in an act that has since been [condemned by the World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#).

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taken to hospitals complaining of nausea and vomiting after being given polio vaccinations. (Muhammad Sajjad/AP)

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Pakistan is one of three countries worldwide where polio remains a regular fixture, the other two nations being nearby Afghanistan and Nigeria. Vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 also poses a threat to Pakistan.

The majority of those suffering from polio will only deal with the disease for a number of days, but some afflictions with the disease can lead to meningitis, paralysis, and even death, [according to the CDC](#). Seemingly full recoveries can also be misleading, as post-polio syndrome can afflict patients 15 to 40 years after the initial disease, leading to paralysis, weakness, and additional muscle pain.

There have been six reported cases of wild poliovirus type 1 in Pakistan this year [according to the latest reports](#), with 12 reported last year.

With News Wire Services



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