



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service
Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)

On May 26, 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) and its Member States ratified a resolution as part of the continuing global efforts to eradicate poliovirus. The resolution, titled “Poliomyelitis – containment of polioviruses,” calls for the destruction and containment of existing stocks of poliovirus in accordance with the WHO Global Action Plan III. Poliovirus type 2 is the first serotype eradicated.

National health authorities can assist with these efforts by expediting a review of human plasma-derived immunoglobulin products tested with poliovirus type 1.

The CDC, as the National Authority for Containment of Poliovirus, is strongly urging all immunoglobulin manufacturers in the United States (U.S.) to discontinue the use of poliovirus type 2 for testing immunoglobulin products. This allows manufacturers to destroy poliovirus type 2 materials. After making this change, fewer facilities will possess poliovirus type 2, and more of the virus can be destroyed. These actions will reduce risks associated with continued use of poliovirus type 2, protect eradication, and help advance the goals of [WHO Global Action Plan III](#). The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approves of using poliovirus type 1 for testing immunoglobulin products.

As all WHO member countries move forward to support poliovirus containment and eradication, the assistance of national health authorities in reviewing human plasma-derived immunoglobulin products tested with poliovirus type 1 rather than poliovirus type 2 will substantially further these efforts. This will be an important step towards a polio-free world.

