

Evolving VDPV2 Epidemiology - 2019

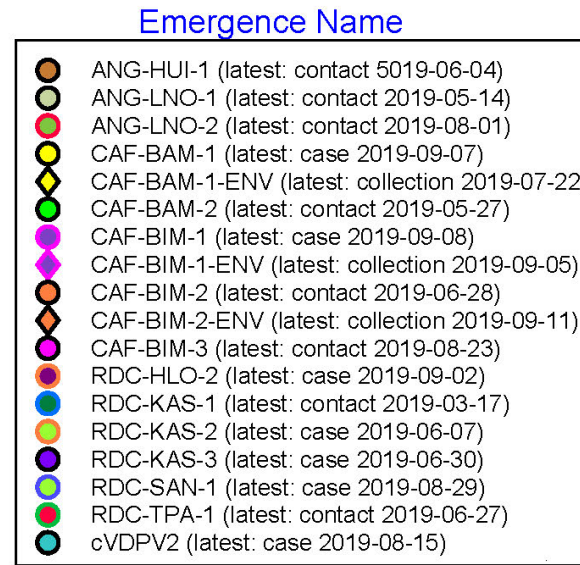
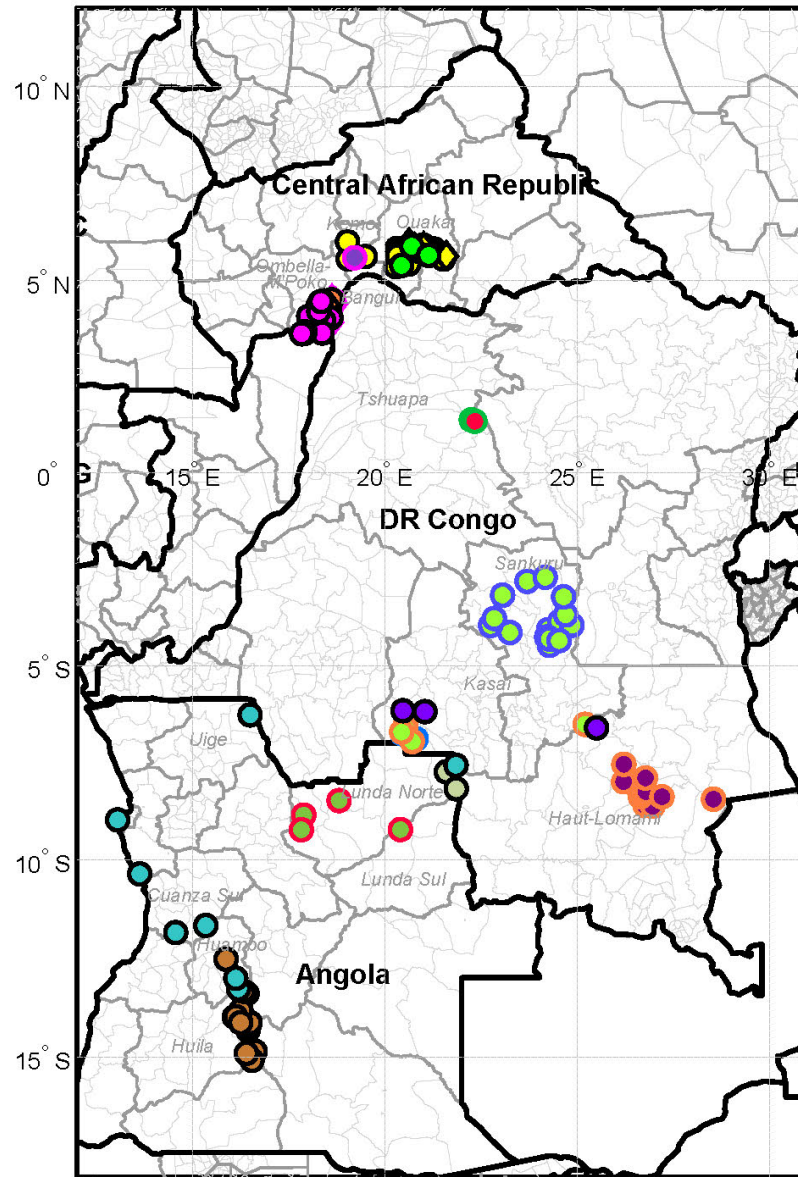
Polio Partners Group Meeting, 6 December 2019, Geneva
Mark A Pallansch, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

cVPDV2 in 2019

- **Dramatic increase in the number of new emergences (>40 in 2019 alone), disproportionately in Central Africa**
- **New emergences without obvious source**
 - Pakistan: Multiple VDPV2 emergences that are cVDPV2 or unclassified
 - Several genetically linked SL2 viruses with as few as 2 nt changes from Sabin 2, despite no recent OPV2 use

cVDPV2 in Central Africa

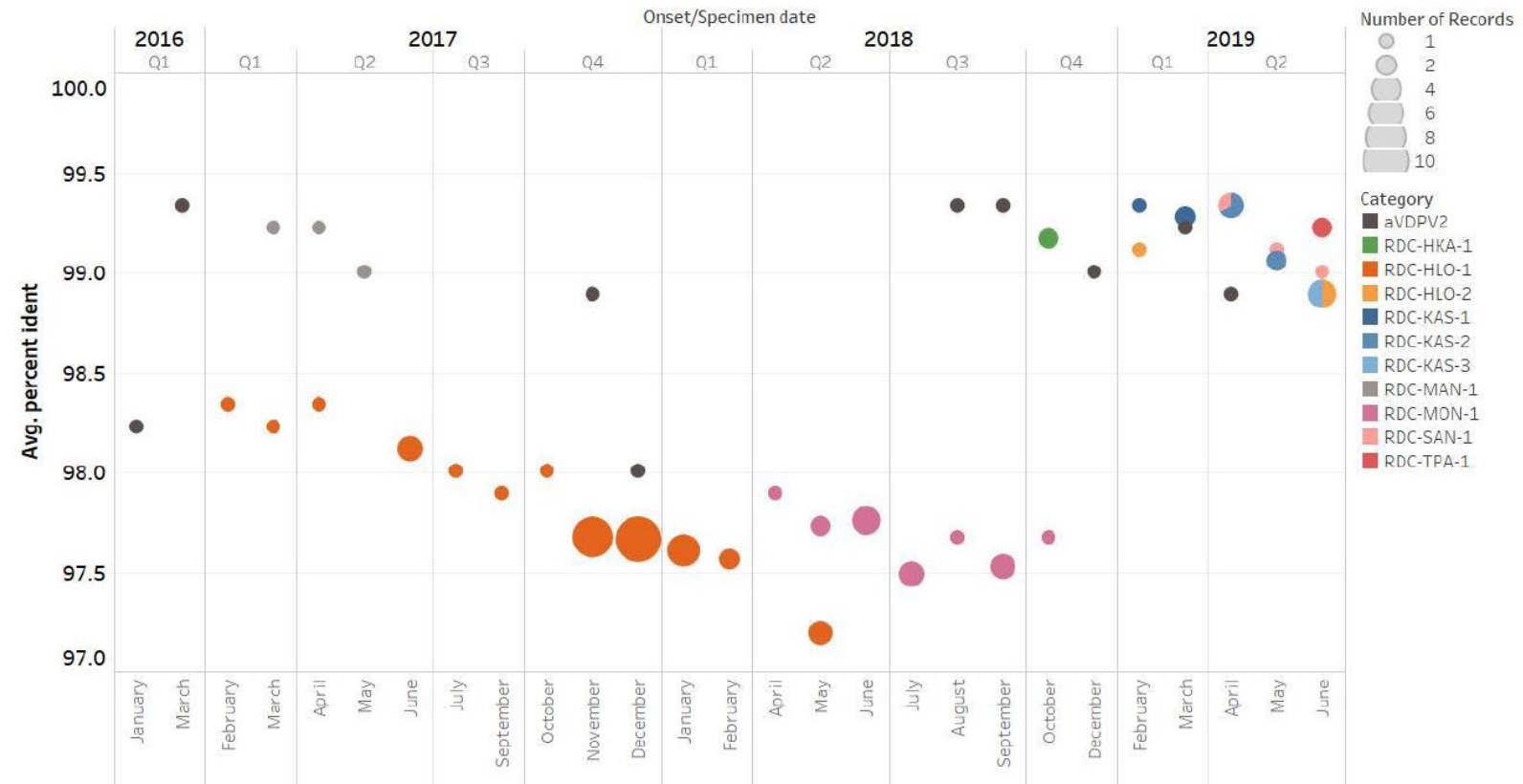
2019 PV2 Serotype Central Africa cVDPV



1. Dots random within LGA
2. Created: 10/24/2019
3. Last case dates are onset dates.
4. Last contact dates are specimen dates.
5. Last ENV dates are collection dates.

Changing frequency of emergencies

DRC 2016-2019
cVDPV2 and aVDPV2



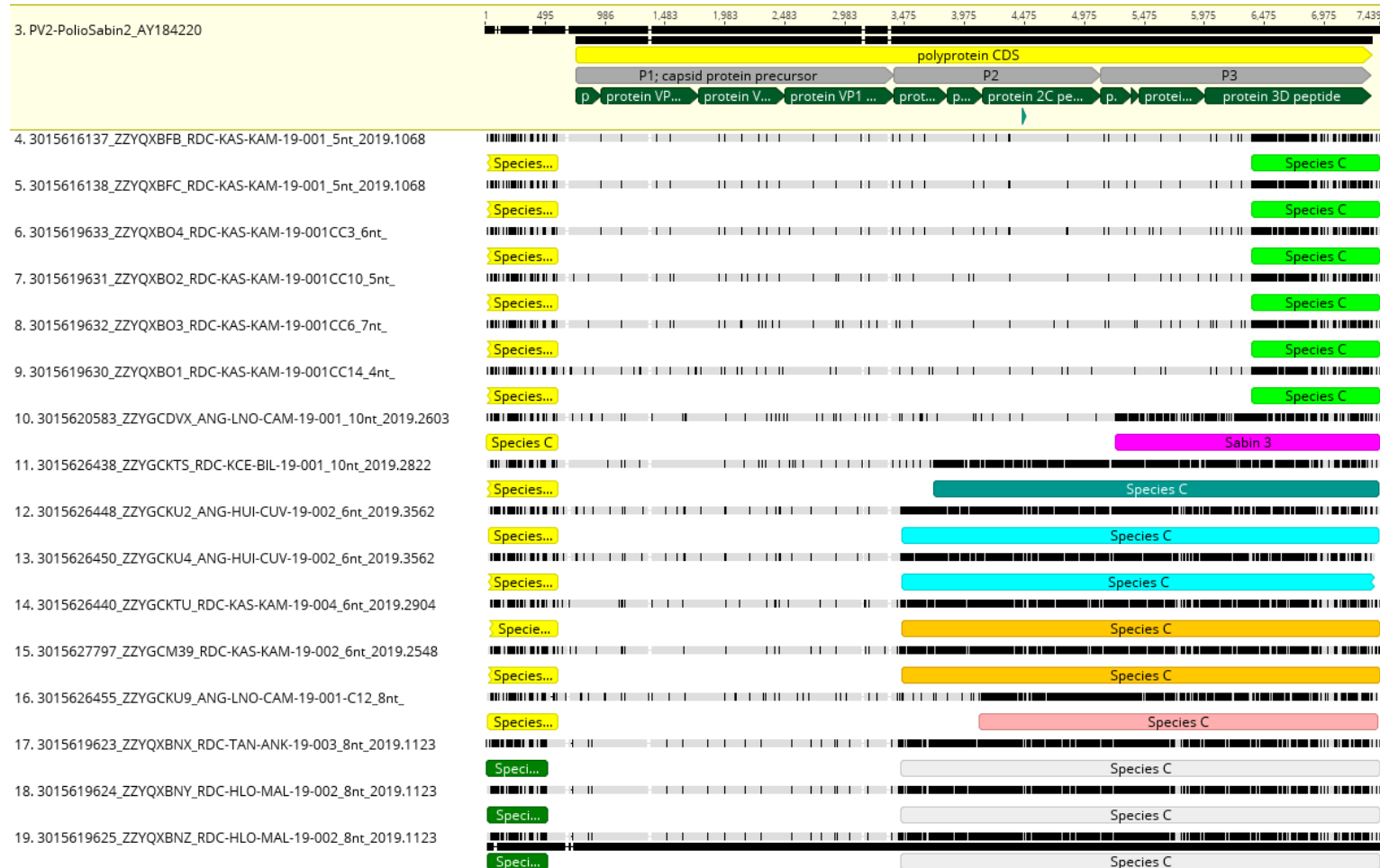
Investigation - Sequencing

Virus Genetics – Challenges of interpretation

- Because of low divergence it has been challenging to establish unambiguous genetic linkages or independence among an increasing number of events.
- However, a unique mutation in the Kasai and Angola viruses allows for a unique opportunity to analyze the question of linkage and independence.
- This is being addressed by complete genome sequencing of all VDPV2 viruses in Central Africa (DRC, ANG, CAR).
- This is being expanded to other emergences sequentially (e.g., PAK is also in progress)

ANG, RDC/KAS, RDC/KCE whole genome analysis

- **VDPVs from ANG, RDC/ Kasai & Kasai Centrale all share 5'UTR**
 - Different from RDC/HLO and RDC/TAN
- **Multiple recombination partners in P2 and P3**
- **Suggests linkage**
- **Sequencing and analyses still ongoing**



Summary of genetic inference

- The viruses in Kasai/DRC and Angola are all descended from a single 'source' that is already genetically distinct (2nt different from Sabin in VP1)
- Complete genome sequencing of multiple viruses in 2019 from this geography confirm additional genetic traits (mutation and recombination) that are consistent with a single 'source' virus.
- Viruses with minimal Sabin divergence from this source have emerged in multiple geographies from February to September, which has never been observed previously
- After emergence, spread and accumulation of genetic mutations occurred just like typical of cVDPVs

Possible scenarios for an explanation

- 1) The 'source' is a single child whose virus spread to multiple geographies without accumulating genetic changes inconsistent with the prior 19 years experience
- 2) The 'source' is a single child whose virus was highly transmissible prior to becoming a VDPV, also never observed
- 3) The 'source' is a common source that is highly distributed in the defined geography leading to multiple independent emergences of cVDPV2 (e.g., vaccines)

Summary

- Changing epidemiology of VDPV2 emergence, primarily in Central Africa
- Increasing ambiguity of linkage/independence because of low divergent cVDPV2
- Common related source but divergent from Sabin as measured by unique genetic mutations and recombination may provide insight into explanation to changing epidemiology
- Immediate change to understand these 2019 emergence events will include whole genome sequencing on all emergent VDPV2
- Uncertainty whether this will be generalizable to other Central African geographies of explanations for cVDPV2 in areas without known mOPV2 use

Thank you