

Containment Advisory Group Clarifies Containment Requirements for Polio Virus-Like Particles (VLPs)

At its recent June 2026 meeting, the Containment Advisory Group (CAG) reviewed the application of poliovirus containment requirements to Polio Virus-Like Particles (VLPs) and related laboratory activities. Following expert deliberations, the CAG concluded that Polio VLPs, as non-infectious and non-replicating particles that do not contain poliovirus RNA, are not subject to poliovirus containment requirements. The CAG also clarified that containment requirements apply only when manufacturers or laboratories perform neutralization testing using live poliovirus, in accordance with the containment measures appropriate to the type of virus handled. Testing based on pseudoviruses does not fall within the scope of containment requirements.

This clarification provides important guidance to vaccine developers, manufacturers, laboratories, and National Authorities for Containment, supporting consistent implementation of the Global Action Plan for Poliovirus Containment while fostering innovation in polio vaccine research and development.