Reporting Patients Under Investigation for Acute Flaccid Myelitis

HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS SHOULD

IDENTIFY PUI
Identify patient under investigation (PUI) for acute flaccid myelitis (AFM); patient with:
- onset of acute flaccid limb weakness
- an MRI showing spinal cord lesions in at least some gray matter

CONTACT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Contact your health department to coordinate submission of specimens and information, including copies of:
- Neurology consult notes
- MRI images & report

COLLECT SPECIMENS
Collect specimens as close to onset of limb weakness as possible and store as directed (freeze as soon as possible after collection).

HEALTH DEPARTMENTS SHOULD

SEND TO CDC
Health department completes AFM Patient Summary Form, compiles medical records, and sends information to CDC.

COORDINATE WITH STATE LAB
Confirm shipping and documentation:
- Specimens should be shipped overnight to arrive at CDC Tuesday through Friday.
- Specimen submission form should be completed for each specimen submitted.
- Prior to shipping, contact CDC lab: AFMLab@cdc.gov

NOTIFY HEALTHCARE PROVIDER
After a neurology expert panel reviews the information, CDC sends case classification to health department.
Health department notifies the treating healthcare provider.*

*Healthcare providers should not wait to receive the case classification to give a clinical diagnosis or to initiate treatment.

Specimens to collect for testing AFM PUIs at CDC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAMPLE</th>
<th>MINIMUM AMOUNT</th>
<th>TUBE TYPE</th>
<th>PROCESSING</th>
<th>STORAGE</th>
<th>SHIPPING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSF</td>
<td>0.15 mL, 0.5-2 mL preferred (collect at same time or within 24 hrs of serum if feasible)</td>
<td>Cryovial</td>
<td>Spun and CSF removed to cryovial</td>
<td>Freeze at ≤-20°C</td>
<td>Frozen on dry ice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serum</td>
<td>0.5 mL, 1 mL preferred (collect at same time or within 24 hrs of CSF if feasible)</td>
<td>Tiger/red top</td>
<td>Spun and serum removed to tiger/red top</td>
<td>Freeze at ≤-20°C</td>
<td>Frozen on dry ice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stool*</td>
<td>1 gram, 10 – 20 grams preferred (2 samples collected 24 hrs apart)</td>
<td>Sterile container</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Freeze at ≤-20°C</td>
<td>Frozen on dry ice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory (NP)/Oropharyngeal (OP) swab</td>
<td>0.5 mL, 1 mL preferred (minimum amount)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Store in vial transport medium</td>
<td>Freeze at ≤-20°C</td>
<td>Frozen on dry ice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Please include stool specimens along with CSF, serum, and NP/OP swabs to help with identification of pathogens and to support poliovirus surveillance

For health department contact information, call the CDC Emergency Operations Center at 770-488-7100.

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