

# 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.

## 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.

### NOTIFY HEALTHCARE PROVIDER


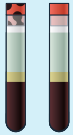

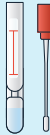
After a neurology expert panel reviews the information, CDC sends case classification to health department.

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

ALL submissions to CDC for diagnostic testing require pre-approval at this time. Contact [AFMLab@cdc.gov](mailto:AFMLab@cdc.gov) before submitting AFM specimens to CDC.

sample	amount	tube type	processing	storage	shipping
CSF	0.15 mL, 0.5-2 mL preferred (collect at same time or within 24hrs of serum)	Cryovial 	Spun and CSF removed to cryovial	Freeze at $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$	Ship on dry ice.
Serum	0.5 mL, 1 mL preferred (collect at same time or within 24hrs of serum)	Tiger/red top 	Spun and serum removed to tiger/red top	Freeze at $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$	Ship on dry ice.
Stool	1 gram, 10 – 20 grams preferred (2 samples collected 24hrs apart)	Sterile container 	N/A	Freeze at $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$	Ship on dry ice. Rectal swabs should not be sent in place of stool.
Respiratory (NP)/ Oropharangeal (OP) swab	0.5 mL, 1 mL preferred (minimum amount)	N/A 	Store in vial transport medium	Freeze at $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$	Ship on dry ice.