Job Aid for Clinicians

How to send information about a suspected acute flaccid myelitis (AFM) case to the health department

1. Identify suspected case of AFM: patient with onset of acute flaccid limb weakness

2. Contact your county health department (FloridaHealth.gov/CHDepicontact) or the Bureau of Epidemiology at 850-245-4401 if you identify a suspected case of AFM.

3. Clinician completes AFM Patient Summary Form, compiles medical records, and sends information to county health department. Patient will be classified by national AFM experts.

4. After expert review, patient classification will be relayed to clinician.

Specimen Collection

- Collect specimens as close to onset of limb weakness as possible and store as directed (see table on reverse side)
- CSF
- Serum
- Stool
- NP swab

Information Sharing

- Complete the patient summary form and send copies of the following to your county health department:
  - Admission and discharge notes
  - Neurology and infectious disease consult notes
  - MRI report
  - MRI images
  - Vaccination history
  - Laboratory test results

Send to

Your County Health Department

For county health department contact information, please visit:
FloridaHealth.gov/CHDepicontact
### Specimens to collect and send for testing for suspected AFM cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAMPLE</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>TUBE TYPE</th>
<th>PROCESSING</th>
<th>STORAGE</th>
<th>SHIPPING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSF</td>
<td>1 mL (collect at same time or within 24 hrs of serum)</td>
<td>Cryovial</td>
<td>Spun and CSF removed to cryovial</td>
<td>Freeze at -20°C</td>
<td>Ship on dry ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serum</td>
<td>≥0.4 mL (collect at same time or within 24 hrs of CSF)</td>
<td>Tiger/red top</td>
<td>Spun and serum removed to tiger/red top</td>
<td>Freeze at -20°C</td>
<td>Ship on dry ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stool</td>
<td>≥1 gram (2 samples collected 24 hrs apart)</td>
<td>Sterile container</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Freeze at -20°C</td>
<td>Ship on dry ice. Rectal swabs should not be sent in place of stool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory (NP)/Oropharyngeal (OP) swab</td>
<td>1 mL (minimum amount)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Store in viral transport medium</td>
<td>Freeze at -20°C</td>
<td>Ship on dry ice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coordinate with your county health department to send information about suspected AFM cases and ship specimens to the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories.

www.cdc.gov/acute-flaccid-myelitis

This job aid was developed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).