

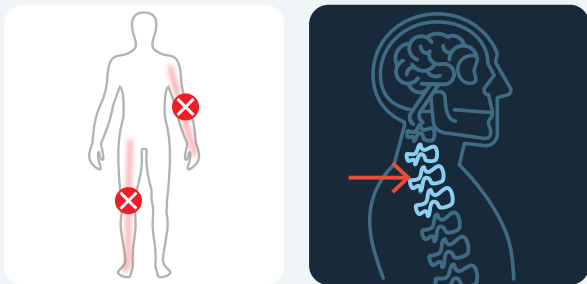
Job Aid for Clinicians

How to send information about a suspected AFM case to the VIDOH

Ensure that patient meets **confirmed** or **probable** case definition for acute flaccid myelitis (AFM).

Confirmed:

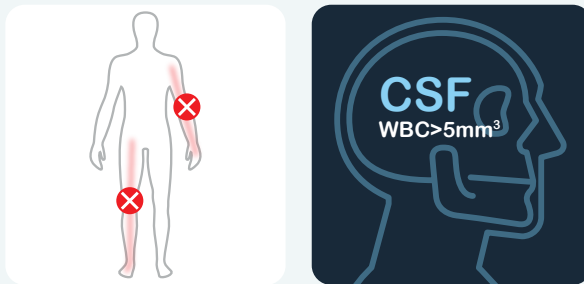
Patient with acute onset of focal limb weakness and an MRI showing a spinal cord lesion largely restricted to gray matter and spanning one or more spinal segments.



OR

Probable:

Patient with acute onset of focal limb weakness and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) with pleocytosis [white blood cell (WBC) count >5 cells/mm³]



Contact VIDOH-EPID when you identify a suspect case of AFM.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

Call Dr. Esther Ellis at (340) 626-1654 or
Dr. Tai Hunte at (240) 472-4466

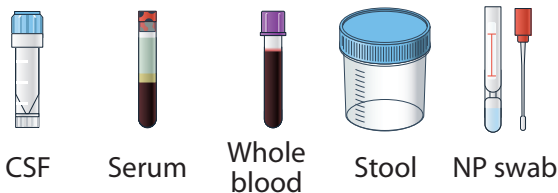
Direct general questions/requests to

Dr. Irene Guendel at irene.guendel@doh.vi.gov
or (340) 774-7477 x5646

AND

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

Collect specimens as close to onset of limb weakness as possible and store as directed (see table on reverse side)



Work with VIDOH-EPID to coordinate specimen pick-up for testing at CDC.

- Specimens should be shipped overnight to arrive at CDC Tuesday through Friday.
- Specimens should be shipped within 24–48 hours of collection, if possible.

INFORMATION SHARING

Assist VIDOH staff in completing *AFM Patient Summary Form* available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/acute-flaccid-myelitis/hcp/data.html>



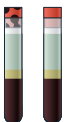
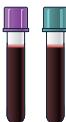


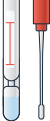
VIDOH sends copies of *Patient Summary Form*, specimens and other clinical information (e.g., MRI scans) to CDC.



TO



Specimens to collect and send to CDC for testing for suspect AFM cases

SAMPLE	AMOUNT	TUBE TYPE	PROCESSING	STORAGE	SHIPPING**
CSF	1mL (collect at same time or within 24hrs of whole blood)	Cryovial 	Spun and CSF removed to cryovial	Freeze at -20°C	Ship on dry ice
CSF	2 mL (collect at same time or within 24hrs of whole blood)	Cryovial 	Unspun	Refrigerate at 4°C	Ship overnight on cold packs within 24–48 hours of collection*
Serum	≥0.4mL	Tiger/red top 	Spun and serum removed to tiger/red top	Freeze at -20°C	Ship on dry ice
Whole blood	3 to 5mL (collect at same time or within 24hrs of CSF)	EDTA/heparin tube (lavender or green top) 	Unspun	Refrigerate at 4°C	Ship overnight on cold packs within 24–48 hours of collection*
Stool	≥1 gram (2 samples collected 24hrs apart)	Sterile container 	n/a	Freeze at -20°C	Ship on dry ice
Rectal swab	≥1 gram (2 samples collected 24hrs apart)	n/a 	Store in viral transport medium	Freeze at -20°C	Ship on dry ice
Respiratory NP or nasal (mid-turbinate [MT]+OP) swab	1ml (minimum amount)	n/a 	Store in viral transport medium	Freeze at -20°C	Ship on dry ice; send ONLY if EV/RV positive for typing

*If specimens cannot be shipped within 24-48 hours of collection, consider repeat collection, if feasible.

**Shipping instructions for VIDOH-EPID staff only.

Include a DASH form with each specimen

(<https://www.cdc.gov/laboratory/specimen-submission/form.html>)

- Select Test Order Name = 'Picornavirus Special Study'

VIDOH-EPID ship specimens to:

Dr. Will Weldon

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Road, NE
Building 17, Room 6124
Atlanta, GA 30329

Office: 404-639-5485
Mobile: 404-216-6183
Email: wweldon@cdc.gov

www.cdc.gov/acute-flaccid-myelitis

National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD)
Division of Viral Diseases



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention