

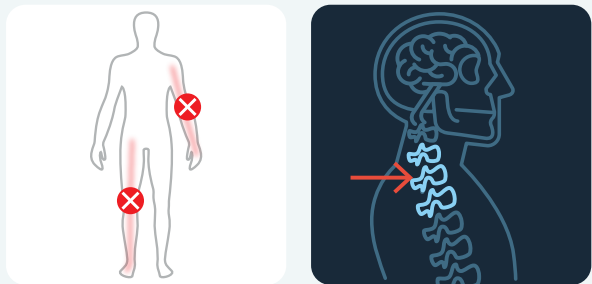
Job Aid for Clinicians

How to send information about a suspected AFM case to the health department

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

Confirmed:

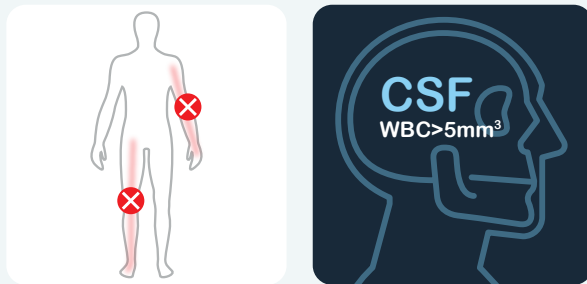
Patient with acute onset of focal limb weakness and an MRI showing a spinal cord lesion largely restricted to gray matter and spanning one or more spinal segments.



OR

Probable:

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

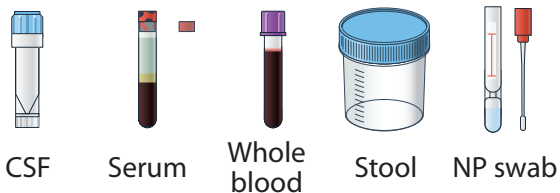


Contact your health department when you identify a suspect case of AFM.

AND

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

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



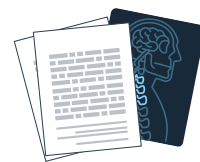
Work with your health department to coordinate submission of specimens for testing at CDC.

- 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

Complete *AFM Patient Summary Form* available at: www.cdc.gov/acute-flaccid-myelitis/hcp/data.html



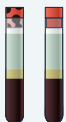
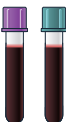


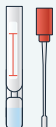
Send copies of *Patient Summary Form* and other clinical information to health department for sharing with CDC.



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.

Coordinate with health department to send information about suspect AFM cases and ship specimens to CDC.

www.cdc.gov/acute-flaccid-myelitis

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

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