

Job Aid for Clinicians

How to send information to the health department about a patient under investigation (PUI) for AFM

1

Identify patient under investigation (PUI) for AFM: patient with onset of acute flaccid limb weakness

2

Contact Houston Health Department (HHD) when you identify a suspected case of AFM/PUI for AFM.

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

Work with HHD to coordinate submission of specimens for testing at CDC.

- Specimens should be shipped to HHD lab (see contact info at the end of the document) to arrive Monday through Friday.
- Specimen submission form (**DASH**) should be completed for each specimen submitted to HHD's Bureau of Laboratory Services. HHD will coordinate submission to CDC.

AND

INFORMATION SHARING

Send copies of the following to your health department for sharing with CDC:

- Admission and discharge notes
- All neurology and infectious disease consult notes
- All MRI reports and MRI Images
- Vaccination history
- Laboratory test results



REPORT TO

HOUSTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Bureau of Epidemiology
24/7 Reporting Number: 832-393-5080
Fax Number: 832-393-5232

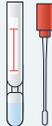
3

Provider completes [AFM Patient Summary Form](#), compiles medical records, and sends information to HHD. Patient will be classified by national AFM experts.

4

After expert review, patient classification is given back to health department and relayed to clinician by health department.

Specimens to collect and send to CDC via HHD Laboratory Services for testing for AFM PUIs

SAMPLE	AMOUNT	TUBE TYPE	PROCESSING	STORAGE	SHIPPING
CSF	1mL (collect at same time or within 24hrs of serum)	Cryovial 	Spun and CSF removed to cryovial	Freeze at -70°C	Ship on dry ice
Serum	≥0.4mL (collect at same time or within 24 hours of CSF)	Tiger/red top 	Spun and serum removed to tiger/red top.	Freeze at -70°C	Ship on dry ice
Stool	≥1 gram (2 samples collected 24hrs apart)	Sterile container 	n/a	Freeze at -20°C *	Ship on dry ice. Rectal swabs should not be sent in place of stool.
Respiratory (NP)/ Oropharyngeal (OP) swab	1ml (minimum amount)	n/a 	Store in viral transport medium	Freeze at -20°C *	Ship on dry ice

*All specimens may be stored at -70°C for ease of shipping.

Coordinate with your health department to send information about PUIs and ship specimens to CDC.

Transport specimen to:
Houston Health Department
Bureau of Laboratory Services
ATTN: Virology
2250 Holombe Blvd.
Houston, TX 77030

*With DASH form. HHD will coordinate submission to CDC.

Distributed by:
Houston Health Department
Bureau of Epidemiology
24/7 Reporting Line: 832-393-5080
Fax Number: 832-393-5232



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