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

1. Identify PUI for AFM: A person with onset of acute flaccid limb weakness AND a magnetic resonance image showing a spinal cord lesion in at least some gray matter and spanning one or more vertebral segments (excluding persons with gray matter lesions in the spinal cord resulting from physician diagnosed malignancy, vascular disease, or anatomic abnormalities).

2. Contact your health department when you identify a PUI for AFM. For health department contact information, call the CDC Emergency Operations Center at 770-488-7100.

   **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 your health department to coordinate submission of specimens for testing at CDC:
   - Specimens should be shipped overnight to arrive at CDC Tuesday through Friday.
   - Specimen submission form (DASH) should be completed for each specimen submitted.

   **INFORMATION SHARING**
   Send copies of the following to your health department for sharing with CDC:
   - Admission and discharge notes
   - Neurology and infectious disease consult notes
   - MRI report
   - MRI images
   - Vaccination history
   - Laboratory test results

3. Health department completes **AFM Patient Summary Form**, compiles medical records, and sends information to CDC. 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 for testing for AFM PUIs

<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>1mL (collect at same time or within 24hrs of serum)</td>
<td>Cryovial</td>
<td>Spun and CSF removed to cryovial</td>
<td>Freeze at -70°C</td>
<td>Ship on dry ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serum</td>
<td>≥0.4mL (collect at same time or within 24 hours of CSF)</td>
<td>Tiger/red top</td>
<td>Spun and serum removed to tiger/red top.</td>
<td>Freeze at -70°C</td>
<td>Ship on dry ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stool</td>
<td>≥1 gram (2 samples collected 24hrs apart)</td>
<td>Sterile</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>1mL (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>

*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. For health department contact information, call the CDC Emergency Operations Center at 770-488-7100.