

Problems

Any suspected or confirmed case of botulism - Wound, Food borne
Infant - handled by DHS

Action

1. Obtain the following information:
 - A. Name, address, and telephone number of patient(s).
 - B. Name and telephone number of attending physician (see number 2).
 - C. Symptoms of patient(s).
 - D. Number of persons believed to have been exposed.
 - E. Date and time of suspected exposure.
 - F. Availability of specimens.
2. Advise attending physician that someone from the California Department of Health Services, Division of Communicable Disease Control will contact him/her to discuss the case and determine whether or not the trivalent antitoxin will be released. Notify the Second Call Duty Officer.
3. Confiscate all suspect items immediately. Determine by recent food history if commercial source of contamination is suspected. Notify Environmental Health, if indicated.
4. Contact the California Department of Health Services, Division of Communicable Disease Control at (510) 540-2566. A security guard will contact the on call physician and have him/her return the telephone call.
5. After antitoxin has been released, and if immediate air transport is required, contact:

Angel Flight (American Medical Support Flight Team)

(310) 390-2958

1-888-426-2643

3161 Donald Douglas Loop South

Santa Monica, CA 90405-3213

6. Notify lab Director to prepare to receive samples. Refer to protocol for examining specimens for botulism

The antitoxin is retrieved from the USPHS Quarantine Station at the "information" counter on the departure level of the Tom Bradley Terminal, Los Angeles International Airport [telephone (310) 215-2365]. Advise pilot to land at the west helipad. If immediate transport is not required, a Public Health employee can drive to the airport to retrieve the antitoxin.

Fax all reports to the Riverside County Public Health Department, Disease Control at:
(951)358-5102

7. Advise attending physician of estimated time of arrival of antitoxin. Advise that serum and stool specimens will be required. If enema is required to collect stool, use sterile water.
8. Notify Second Call Duty Officer.
9. Report to Disease Control as soon as possible the next working day.

Attachments: Specimens for Botulism Examination
Food and Drug Branch

[Reporting Form: Botulism Case Report \(DHS 8547\)](#)

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