

Evaluate a Rash Illness Suspicious for Smallpox

Caution: Use this tool only when there is no release or circulation of smallpox.

1. **Answer all questions.** If a question does not apply to your patient, or if you cannot answer the question, click "**No**", or "**Unknown**".
2. After you complete the questions, **press the "Evaluate Risk" button.**

Type of Rash Illness

1. Does the patient have an [acute, generalized rash](#) on the body, with [vesicles](#) or [pustules](#)?

Yes No

If **yes**, institute [airborne and contact precautions](#).

If **no**, and there is no known release or circulation of smallpox, there is **no basis for calculating risk** for smallpox.

Major Smallpox Criteria [more information](#)

2. Does the patient have [classic smallpox lesions](#) (i.e., deep-seated, firm/hard, round well-circumscribed vesicles or pustules)?

Yes No classic smallpox lesions

3. Are the vesicles or pustules in the [same stage of development](#)? For example, on any part of the body (e.g., face or arm) are lesions all [vesicles](#) or [pustules](#)?

Yes No

4. Did the patient develop a fever of 101°F or greater 1-4 days before rash onset?

Yes No High fever, but not measured Unknown

5. Did the patient have any of the following symptoms 1-4 days before rash onset?

Prostration Headache Backache

- Chills Vomiting Severe abdominal pain
- No additional symptoms

Minor Smallpox Criteria [more information](#)

6. Does the patient have symptoms meeting minor criteria? Check all that apply.

- Lesions are [distributed centrifugally](#), with greatest concentration of lesions on face and distal extremities.
- First lesions occurred on the oral mucosa or palate, face, or forearms.
- The patient appears [toxic](#) or [moribund](#).
- Lesions [evolve slowly](#), from [macules](#) to [papules](#) to [vesicles](#) to [pustules](#), with each stage lasting 1-2 days.
- Lesions appear on the [palms of the hands](#) and [soles of the feet](#).
- No minor smallpox criteria.
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