



DURHAM
REGION
HEALTH
DEPARTMENT
DurhamMD.ca

FAX about ...



Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) Surveillance

As of October 25, 2018, in Ontario, there are **nine** AFP cases under investigation and two confirmed cases in children. The cause of these cases is **not known**. Surveillance is conducted to investigate all cases of AFP to **rule out** poliomyelitis.

The most characteristic feature of AFP associated with polio is its **acute asymmetric weakness (paralysis) with fever present at onset**.

Health care providers are required to report cases of AFP in children **less than 15 years** of age. Any child less than 15 years of age with AFP, should have the following laboratory testing to detect a viral cause:

- **Stool samples** – collection of **two sets** of stool samples within **two weeks** after the onset of paralysis for viral studies and campylobacter.
- **Viral throat swab** – always collect a throat swab in **Universal Transport Media (UTM)**
- Depending on the clinical presentation, a **nasopharyngeal (NP) swab**, and/or **cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)** may be collected to assist with the investigation.

Please visit Public Health Ontario laboratory website for more information

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/BrowseByTopic/Pages/Topic.aspx?k=Acute+flaccid+paralysis%20InformationByTopic:%22Acute%20flaccid%20paralysis%22>

For reporting of suspect cases, testing requirements and other inquiries related to AFP, call Durham Region Health Department at 905-668-4113 ext. 2996.

Durham Region Health Department: 905-668-7711, 1-800-841-2729

October 31, 2018

If you prefer to receive this information in an electronic format please submit your request to healthresources@durham.ca

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-877-777-9613.