

Investigation and reporting of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) in children <15 years of age

Step 1

Virology examination of stool

- Collect 2 stool specimens as soon as possible, 24 hours apart, within two weeks of onset of paralysis and sent to National Virus Reference Lab (NVRL) and state on form "INVESTIGATION OF AFP-ENTEROVIRAL TESTING, SEND TO NVRL"
- Collect throat swab/nasopharyngeal swab/aspirate



Paediatric neurology referral

- Most cases should be referred to paediatric neurologists for further diagnostic tests

Step 2



Step 3

Complete AFP enhanced surveillance form (clinical details)

- The form is available online at <http://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/vaccinepreventable/polio/surveillanceforms/>
- Complete form and return to Dr Suzanne Cotter, HPSC, 25-27 Middle Gardiner Street, Dublin 1, by fax (01 856 1299) OR scan and email to paula.flanagan@hse.ie



Report to Irish Paediatric Surveillance Unit (IPSU)

- * When returning your monthly IPSU card/email tick the AFP box and indicate that surveillance forms have been completed and returned

Step 4

What happens next?

- The NVRL will return the results to the hospital and clinician
- The National Polio Expert Committee will review the results

More information:

HPSC: www.hpsc.ie (T: 01 876 5300)
NVRL: (T: 01 716 4401)