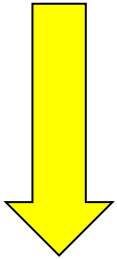


# Summary Suspect Polio Surveillance and Specimen Collection Guidance

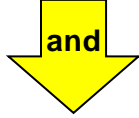
**Acute flaccid weakness, acute onset of flaccid paralysis or AFM**



**Collect stool and other specimens** (see text)

- Request the laboratory hold all specimens for submission to the NYSDOH Wadsworth Center
- Immediately notify the local health department where the patient resides and contact the NYSDOH at [AFM@health.ny.gov](mailto:AFM@health.ny.gov)

**Meningitis**



Known or suspected to be unimmunized or under-immunized for polio



Resides, works, attends school, or has frequent social interactions in Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, or Nassau counties



No other apparent cause of meningitis.  
Enterovirus testing of CSF may be positive, negative, or not done.



**Non-specific viral symptoms**

Defined as:  
1. sore throat AND fever  
OR  
2. sore throat OR fever AND at least one: tiredness, headache, nausea, stomach pain



Known or suspected to be unimmunized or under-immunized for polio



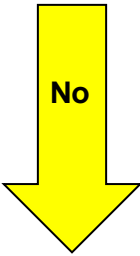
Resides, works, attends school, or has frequent social interactions in Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, or Nassau counties



*Was patient tested for COVID-19, influenza, streptococcal infection or other respiratory pathogens?*



Are all tests negative?  
(or only enterovirus or “rhino-enterovirus” positive)



**Collect diagnostic stool specimen for enterovirus PCR testing and send to the clinical laboratory routinely used** (see text)

- If a stool specimen cannot be obtained, an OP swab is acceptable. **Stool is preferred.**
- Note the Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, or Nassau County connection on the lab requisition.
- An enterovirus-specific PCR test should be ordered; that is, point-of-care or other tests that return a “rhino/enterovirus” result are not acceptable.

*NYSDOH has requested that clinical laboratories send specimens positive for enterovirus to the NYSDOH Wadsworth Center for poliovirus testing. For more information please see: [https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/polio/docs/2023-07-26\\_laboratory\\_advisory.pdf](https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/polio/docs/2023-07-26_laboratory_advisory.pdf)*

