

CDC AFM Program Updates: Preparedness and Partnerships

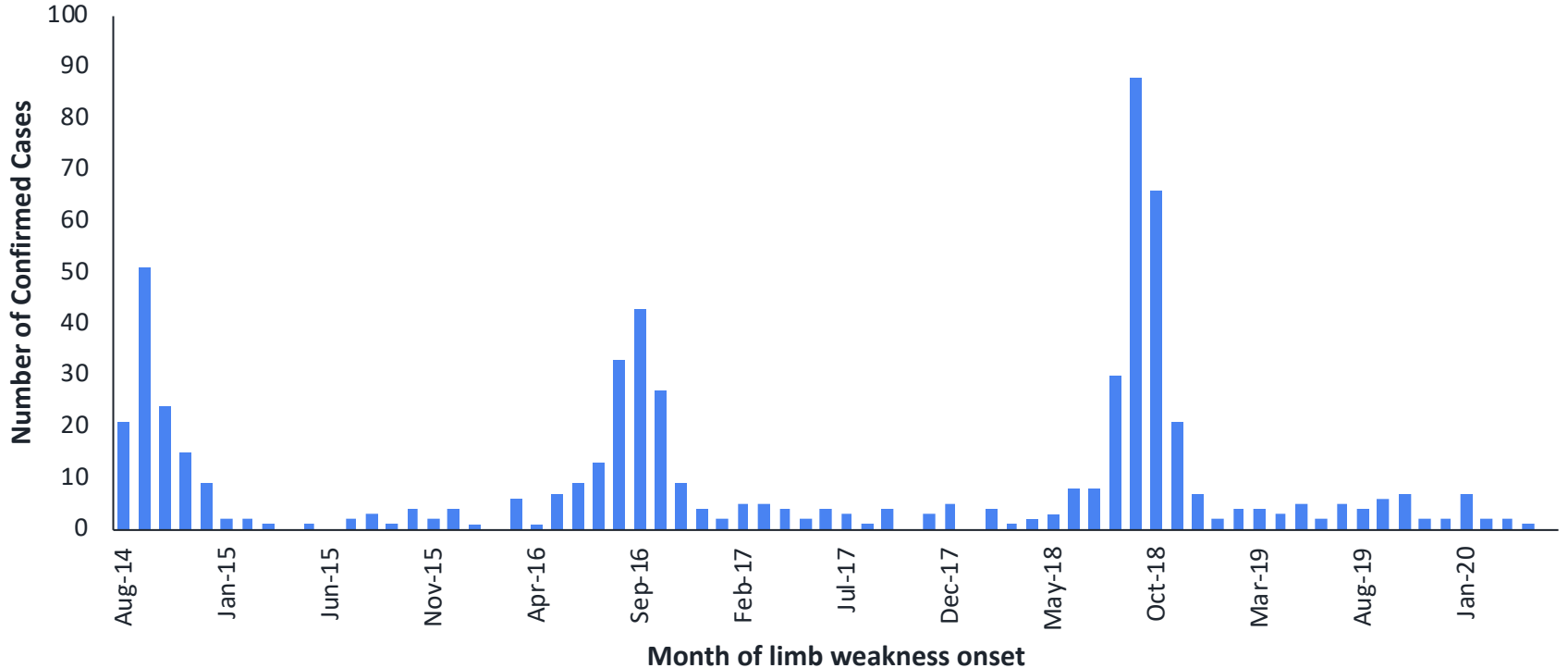
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Virtual AFM Symposium
June 26, 2020

National increase in AFM cases every 2 years since 2014

Number of confirmed reported AFM cases, Aug 2014 – May 2020 (n=629)



AFM Preparedness and Response Activities

Preparedness

- Work with health jurisdictions to enhance surveillance
- Develop and test emergency response plan
- Prepare materials in advance (e.g., COCA slides, HAN/Epi-X)
- Educate clinicians (e.g., Public Health Grand Rounds, Vitals Signs)
- Update AFM website and create new communication materials
- Collaborate with AFM experts, partners, and parents

AFM Preparedness and Response Activities

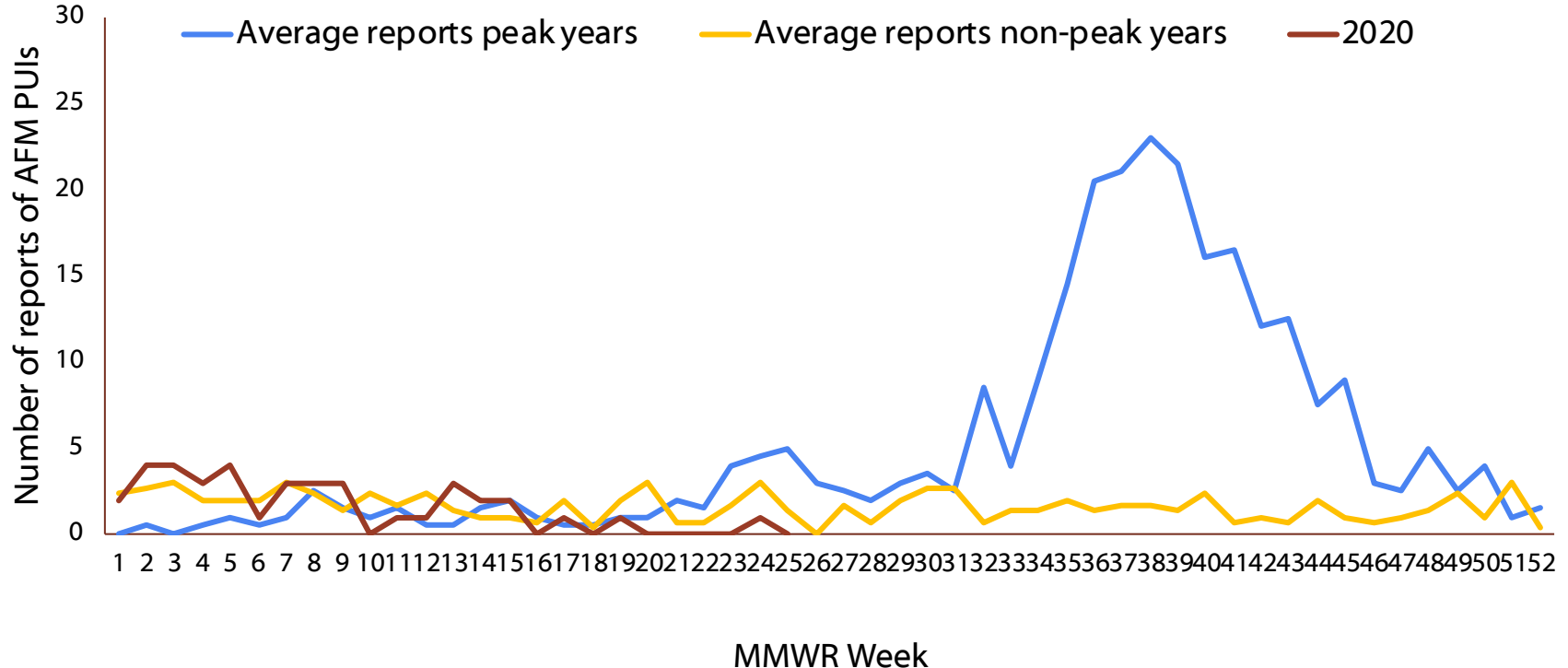
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Trigger

Greater-than-usual number of reports of suspect cases of AFM for a given period as compared to previous years

Number of AFM case reports to CDC by week of report and year



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Response-Immediate Actions

- Establish CDC incident management structure
- Alert health jurisdictions and other partners
- Release information to news media
- COCA call to increase clinician awareness, recognition and reporting
- Post information on the AFM website and social media
- Ensure timely response to partners, public, and news media

Streamlined Reporting and Classification Processes

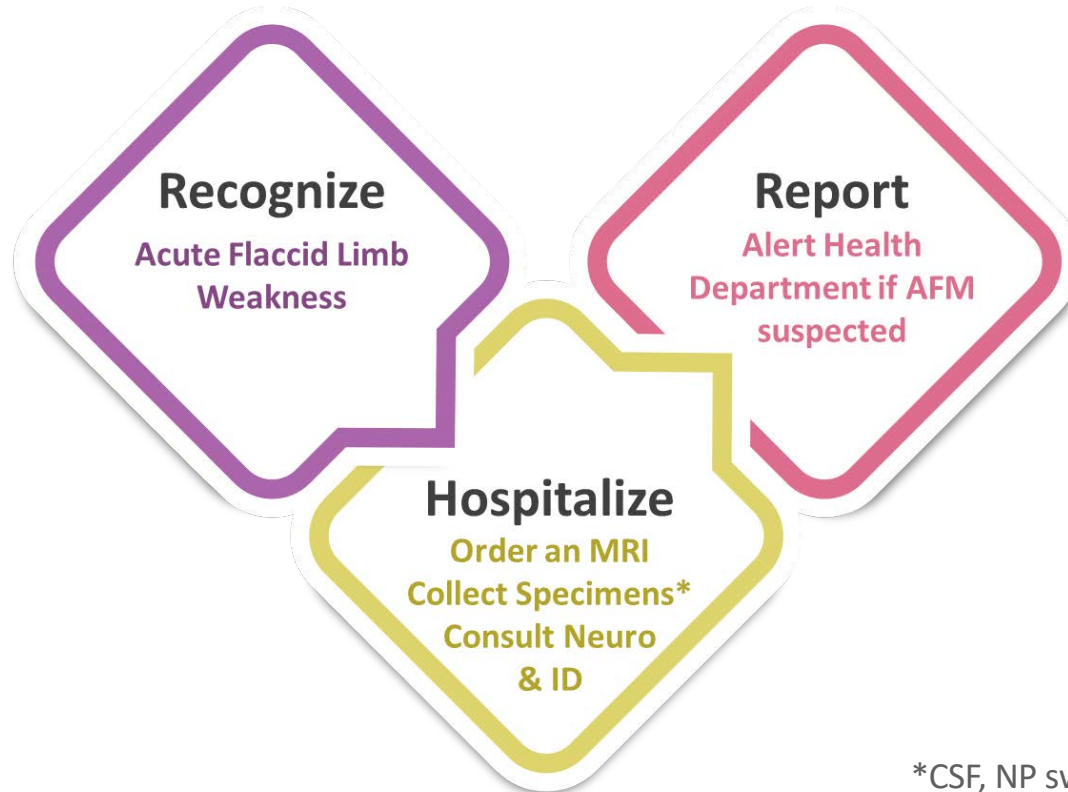
- Designated, trained staff at health departments to report possible cases
- Staged reporting and data transmission to CDC
 - Stage 1: minimum data, data needed to classify cases
 - Stage 2: more detailed information on presentation, treatment, outcomes
- New electronic platform to submit and review MRI images, reports for classification
- Additional neurologists to review and classify cases

Beyond Surveillance:

Additional data collection opportunities for new cases

- NIH AFM Natural History study
- CDC-funded project to collect samples for patients not at NIH study sites
- Common biorepository for future research

Communication and partnerships are critical to increase awareness



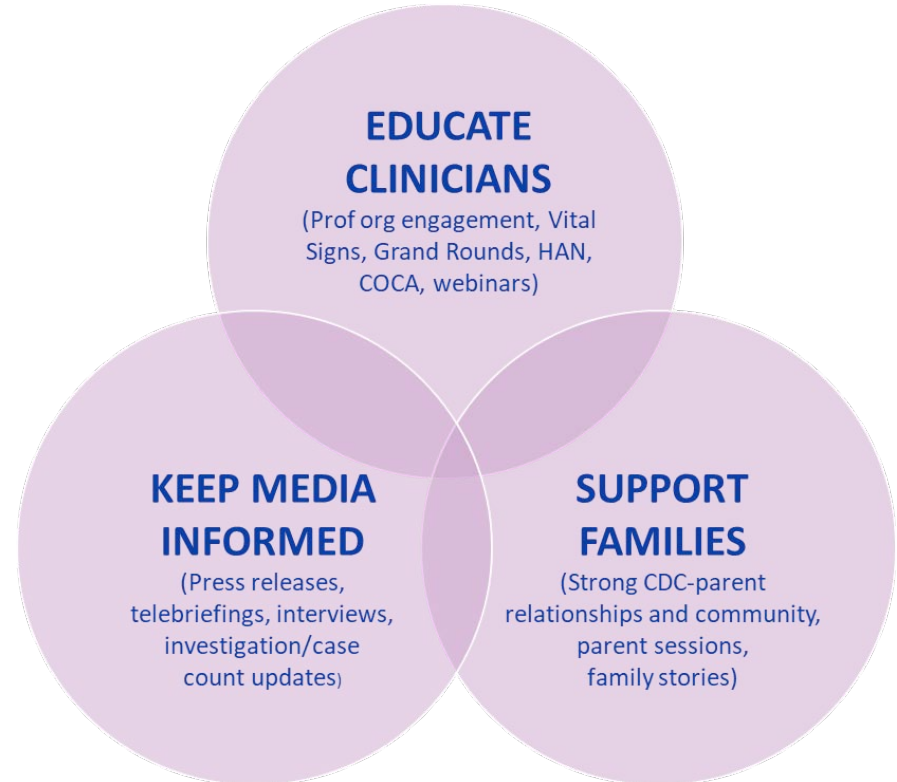
*CSF, NP swab, stool, serum

CDC's National AFM Awareness Campaign

Primary objectives of the campaign:

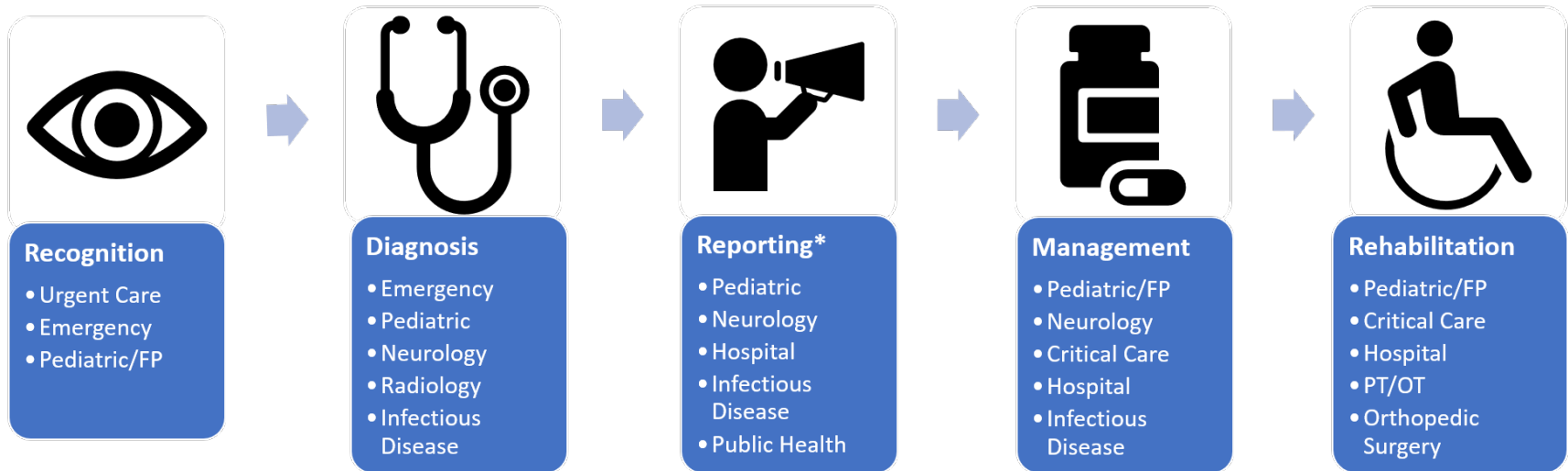
- To increase clinicians' awareness of AFM for prompt symptom recognition, treatment, and reporting of suspected cases to health departments
- To provide support to and resources for parents and families affected by AFM

Visit the CDC's AFM website at
www.cdc.gov/acute-flaccid-myelitis/



Targeted Clinicians

Clinicians involved in recognizing, diagnosing, hospitalizing, and treating patients, as well as reporting cases to health departments



*Any clinician who suspects AFM should promptly report to their health department.

Engaging Professional Organizations

Pediatrics/Family Care

- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)

Neurology

- American Academy of Neurology (AAN)
- Child Neurology Society (CNS)

Urgent Care

- Urgent Care Association (UCA)
- Society for Pediatric Urgent Care (SPUC)

Infectious Diseases

- Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA)
- Pediatric Infectious Disease Society (PIDS)
- National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID)

Emergency Medicine

- American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM)
- American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)
- Emergency Medicine Residents' Association (EMRA)
- Emergency Nurses Association (ENA)
- Society of Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM)

Hospitalists

- Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM)
- Children's Hospital Association

Critical Care

- Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM)
- Pediatric Critical Care Medicine (PedsCCM.org)
- American Association of Critical-care Nurses (AACN)

Radiology

- American Society for Neuroradiology (ASNR)
- American College of Radiology (ACR)
- Radiological Society of North America (RSNA)

Nursing

- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP)
- American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM)

Orthopedic Surgeons

- American Society for Surgery of the Hand (ASSH)
- Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America (POSNA)

Public Health

- National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO)
- Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE)

Additional Medical Outreach

- AMA, ACP, AANP, ANA, AAPA, NMA, BCBS, AAMC, ACGME
- Kaiser, Medscape, Epocrates
- JAMA, The Lancet, The BMJ
- Medline Plus, Medpage Today, RNsights
- Sermo, PlatformQHealth, Univadis

epocrates®



MEDPAGE TODAY®



univadis®

Planned Activities for Clinicians, 2020

BEFORE OUTBREAK & RESPONSE

- Clinician research (January, May, & June)
- Media ad campaign (started June 1)
- CDC Public Health Grand Rounds (July 21)
- CDC Vital Signs (August 4)
- CDC webinar (July 8)
- Partner activities (June and July)
 - Johns Hopkins Symposium
 - Society for Pediatric Urgent Care webinar
 - Urgent Care Association webinar
- Partner calls/updates
- Social media posts

DURING OUTBREAK & RESPONSE

- HAN/Epi-X announcements
- COCA call
- MMWR article
- Stories on Medscape and medical channels
- Partner webinars
- Partner calls/updates
- Social media posts

Clinician Research

- In-depth interviews with AFM Experts (N=20) [completed]
 - Specialties included urgent and emergency care, pediatrics, neurology, and rehabilitation
- Online survey of clinicians nationally (N=250) [completed]
 - Specialties to include urgent and emergency care, pediatrics, neurology, and rehabilitation
 - To determine baseline **knowledge, attitudes, practices, and resource needs** regarding AFM recognition, diagnosis, treatment, and reporting
 - Good response rates in most targeted specialties (pediatricians, ER, FM, neurology, private practice, hospital-based)
 - Data analysis started
- Online survey (N=250) [completed]
 - To **test existing CDC messages and products** (2019 Vital Signs fact sheet, job aid for reporting cases, fact sheet for symptom recognition)
 - Closed, data analysis to begin soon

In-depth Interviews Main Findings

- Focus on frontline clinicians: Recognize & Hospitalize
 - New materials focused on recognition (fact sheet, slide set, webpage)
 - Increase awareness among clinicians that **acute flaccid weakness is a neurological emergency**, and remind clinicians to perform a thorough neurological exam
 - Increase awareness of **AFM experts and the existing AFM teleconsulting services** for clinicians
- Multi-disciplinary team of experts is involved in addressing a suspected case of AFM
 - Guide for roles and responsibilities with tips on how to set up flows in institutions to handle cases, specimen collection, and reporting, etc.
- Timing of outreach
 - Increased clinician outreach in July, closer to the expected outbreak
 - Media ad campaign started on June 1 and will continue through the summer
 - Activities planned for June, July, and August (webinars, Public Health Grands Rounds, Vital Signs, new educational materials)

AFM Media Ads Targeted to Clinicians

CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1,097,755 followers
Promoted

Get up to date on acute flaccid myelitis (AFM), a life-threatening neurologic condition that affects mostly children.

Acute flaccid myelitis is a paralytic disease. Have you heard of it?

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS.

LEARN MORE

Advertising Disclaimer >

Would you recognize AFM symptoms?

cdc.gov

NEJM Journal Watch

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Acute Flaccid Myelitis: CDC Summary of Cases

The comprehensive summary of cases reported across an infectious episode, but none has been confirmed. Following reports of acute flaccid myelitis (AFM) in children across the U.S., the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) established a case definition, initiated a surveillance program, and coordinated a standardized evaluation for affected patients.

This report summarizes 106 cases of AFM in U.S. states. Findings include:

Deborah Lehman, MD
Associate Editor
PEDIATRICS AND ADULT-ONSET MYELOPATHY

Engage | Discuss | Share

What will you learn today?

Acute flaccid myelitis is a paralytic disease. Have you heard of it?

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS.

LEARN MORE

Advertising Disclaimer >

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

AAP Daily Briefing

Good morning Jamie Gergely

Tuesday, June 2, 2020

AAP Resources for COVID-19

Get the latest guidance for pediatricians here. The AAP *BeWell* Your Pediatrician campaign is looking for blogs from members about how they are getting children into their offices for vaccinations and offering care during this COVID-19 pandemic. To share your story, visit www.aap.org/COVIDstory.

LEADING THE NEWS

Acute flaccid myelitis is a paralytic disease. Have you heard of it?

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS.

LEARN MORE

If Pandemic-Related School Closures Continue To End Of 2020, U.S. Childhood Obesity Rate May Increase By 2.4%, Research Indicates

HealthDay (6/1) reports that "new research warns that over one million more American boys and girls" may have obesity "if coronavirus-related school closures continue through the end of the year." The study author said, "If school closures continue to the end of 2020 – due to unsubsided community transmission of COVID-19 – the childhood obesity rate in the U.S. might further increase by 2.4%." The research was published in the Journal of Sport and Health Science.

FURTHER READING

FYI: Obesity Care Podcast: Virtual Preparation For Board

Exam And More

SEMPA NEWS
Society of Emergency Medicine Physician Assistants

ed morning Jamie Gergely

Monday, June 1, 2020

Editor's Note

View SEMPA's COVID-19 Resource Center [here](#).

Leading the News

Acute flaccid myelitis is a paralytic disease. Have you heard of it?

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS.

LEARN MORE

Deaths Attributable To Pandemic In US Likely Reached 100,000 Three Weeks Ago, Analysis Indicates

The Washington Post (5/30; Tran, Shapiro, Brown) reported, "The number of people reported to have died of the novel coronavirus in the United States surpassed 100,000 this week, a grim marker of lives lost directly to the disease, but an analysis of overall deaths during the pandemic shows that the nation probably reached a similar terrible milestone three weeks ago." Specifically, "between March 1 and May 9, the nation recorded an estimated 105,460 excess

CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1,097,755 followers
Promoted

Learn about acute flaccid myelitis (AFM), a serious neurologic condition that can cause paralysis, mostly in children.

Would you recognize acute flaccid myelitis?

Have you heard of AFM?

cdc.gov

Learn more

MCN

Articles & Issues Collections CME Videos Journal Info

Acute Flaccid Myelitis
A Rare but Devastating Illness

Book Lab A DOL, RN, THAT RAN. Author information @

Acute Flaccid Myelitis: A Rare but Devastating Illness

Guided limb weakness in children. Think acute flaccid myelitis.

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS.

LEARN MORE

101 TOPICS in Pediatric Nursing

Acute Flaccid Myelitis: A Rare but Devastating Illness

A nurse who has seen a child with AFM shares her experience.

CDC AFM Webinar

- Date: July 8, 1:00 p.m. ET
- Topics to be covered
 - Epidemiology of AFM
 - Clinical presentation, diagnosis, and medical management
 - Reporting suspected cases
 - Clinical diagnosis vs. CDC case classification
 - Roles, responsibilities, and scope of practice as a team member in addressing AFM
 - Resources for healthcare providers
- Visit CDC's website to register:
www.cdc.gov/acute-flaccid-myelitis/hcp/clinicians-health-departments/webinar-2020.html

Acute Flaccid Myelitis: What Healthcare Providers Need to Know in 2020



Do you know the symptoms of acute flaccid myelitis, or AFM? If you suspected a patient had AFM, would you know how to manage them? Do you know the time of year when AFM is more common, and how to report a suspected case?

In preparation for a possible AFM outbreak in 2020, CDC wants to make sure clinicians can promptly recognize AFM symptoms, appropriately manage patients, and report suspected cases. CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) is hosting a **webinar on July 8, 2020, at 1:00 pm ET** about AFM, a serious neurologic condition that affects mostly children.

Objectives

By the end of this webinar, the participant will be able to:

1. Summarize the epidemiology of AFM.
2. Describe clinical presentation, diagnostic workup, and patient management considerations for suspected AFM.
3. Explain how and why to report a suspected AFM case to the health department.
4. Identify the differences between clinical diagnosis and CDC case classification.
5. Describe the roles, responsibilities, and scope of practice as a team member in addressing AFM.
6. Describe resources that are available for healthcare providers about AFM.

Faculty/ Credentials



Adriana Lopez, MPH, Epidemiologist, AFM and Domestic Poliovirus Team, CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD



Sarah Kidd, MD, Medical Officer, AFM and Domestic Poliovirus Team, CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD



Janell Routh, MD, MHS, Medical Officer, Lead, AFM and Domestic Poliovirus Team, CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD



Alexandra Hess, PhD, Health Communication Specialist, Northrop Grumman Corporation (Contractor) CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD

AFM Public Health Grand Rounds

- Date: July 21, 1:00 p.m. ET
- Topic: Acute Flaccid Myelitis: Answering Questions Through National Collaborations

Speakers	Title
Janell Routh, MD MHS (CDC)	AFM in the United States
Rachel Scott, Parent Advocate (AFMA)	A Parent's Perspective: Building an AFM Network in the U.S.
Kevin Messacar, MD, MPH, (Children's Hospital Colorado)	Clinical Presentation and Diagnosis of AFM
Emily Erbelding, MD, MPH (NIH)	Building Research Partnerships for AFM

- More info will be posted on CDC's website: www.cdc.gov/grand-rounds and social media: www.facebook.com/CDC

Public Health Matters blog



- July release
- Theme: General awareness of possible upcoming outbreak through an engaging piece to heighten the urgency during COVID-19 pandemic
- Main audiences: healthcare professionals and parents of young children
- Promoted on website, in a newsletter sent to 90,000+ subscribers, and on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)
- More info on <http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/>

AFM Vital Signs

- Release date: August 4
- Theme: Recognize symptoms. Hospitalize immediately.
- Target audience: frontline clinicians (e.g., ED and urgent care providers, pediatricians)
- Signs and symptoms and neurology assessment
- Primary products:
 - MMWR, fact sheet/graphics, website
 - Telebriefing and press release
 - Medical outreach and social media



See 2019 AFM Vital Sign at:
www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/afm/

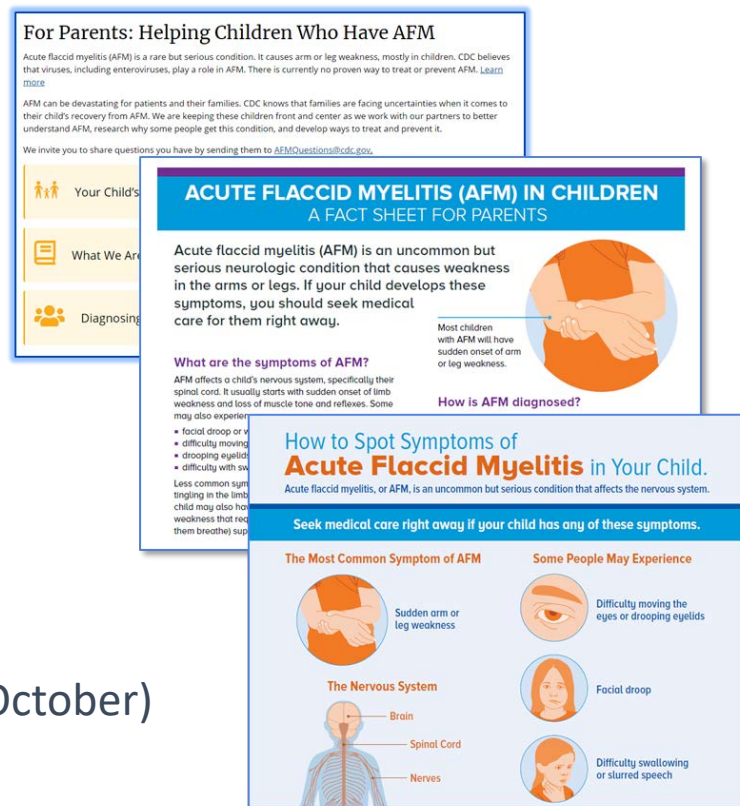
Products and Activities for Parents

Updated products

- Parent webpages (February 2020)
 - Difference between diagnosis and case classification
- AFM fact sheet
- AFM symptoms poster
 - 2 symptoms added

Planned products and activities

- July is the AFM Awareness Month
 - Family stories (web-based and videos)
 - “Why I Care about AFM” testimonials
 - Social media campaign
- AFM Parent Information Sessions (June, August, October)
- Email box for parent and public inquiries



AFM Parent Information Sessions

- First session: June 25, 3:00 p.m. ET
- Target audience: AFM parent and family community
- Main topics:
 - What CDC has learned so far
 - How CDC is preparing for anticipated outbreak
 - Difference between clinical diagnosis and case classification
- Promotion through
 - Siegel Rare Neuroimmune Association (SRNA)
 - Acute Flaccid Myelitis Association (AFMA)
 - AFM parent Facebook groups and networks





Working Together as an AFM Community

Thank you from the CDC's AFM Team

Epidemiology

- Janell Routh
- Sarah Kidd
- Adriana Lopez
- Eileen Yee
- Halle Getachew
- Le'Dor Milteer
- Randall English

Health Communication

- Jeanette St. Pierre
- Jessica Anderson
- Malaika Hilliard
- Tiffany Smith
- Alexandra Hess

Laboratory

- Steve Oberste
- Jennifer Anstadt
- Allan Nix
- Brian Emery
- Shannon Rogers
- Heather Jost

For more information

Visit www.cdc.gov/afm

Contact CDC AFM program at:

- Clinicians/health departments: AFMinfo@cdc.gov
- Public: AFMquestions@cdc.gov

Contact other AFM specialists via the AFM Physician Consult and Support Portal:
<https://wearesrna.org/living-with-myelitis/resources/afm-physician-support-portal/>

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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Habilitation: obtaining ongoing services



Janet Dean, MS, RN, CRNP

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International Center for Spinal Cord
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