

ACUTE FLACCID PARALYSIS

Case Definition

Confirmed Case:

Clinical Case

Acute onset of focal weakness or paralysis characterized as flaccid (reduced tone) without other obvious cause (e.g. trauma) in children <15 years old, including Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS). Transient weakness (e.g. post-ictal weakness) should not be reported.

Note: Other conditions present symptoms similar to paralytic poliomyelitis. A record is kept of all definitive diagnoses for all reported cases of AFP meeting the clinical case definition. GBS is the most common cause of AFP in childhood, but other differential diagnoses include, but are not limited to, transverse myelitis, peripheral neuropathy, enteroviruses, acute non-bacterial meningitis, brain abscess, China Syndrome and postpolio sequelae. Poliomyelitis must be distinguished from other paralytic conditions by isolation of polio virus from stool.

Clinical Evidence

See conditions referred to in clinical case definition.

Reporting Requirements

- Report confirmed cases **immediately** to DHW Surveillance Team.
- Enter into Panorama.

Additional Forms

None.

Data Entry

Complete data entry in Panorama.