

INFANT BOTULISM

Guidelines for Requesting BabyBIG® and Laboratory Testing

Due to multi-agency involvement, CDC recognizes that obtaining appropriate and timely clinical consultation, treatment, and laboratory testing for a suspect infant botulism case (12 months of age or younger with clinical history and exam findings consistent with infant botulism) can be challenging. The purpose of this document is to define the roles and responsibilities for treatment and laboratory testing of **infant botulism** cases only (management of adult botulism cases continues to be coordinated by the CDC botulism duty officer on call).

CONSULTATION AND TREATMENT WITH HUMAN BOTULISM ANTITOXIN (BabyBIG®)

- BabyBIG® is a product licensed to treat type A and B infant botulism cases and only available through the California Department of Public Health, Infant Botulism Treatment and Prevention Program (IBTPP). For maximum benefit, treatment with BabyBIG® should occur as early as possible.
- Clinicians and health departments with a suspect infant botulism case should contact IBTPP immediately (24/7) at (510) 231-7600 for clinical consultation and/or treatment with BabyBIG®. General information about infant botulism can be found on the IBTPP website: www.infantbotulism.org

LABORATORY TESTING

- If your state/local health department laboratory conducts botulism testing, follow your internal procedure for arranging laboratory testing.
- If another state health department conducts botulism testing for your state, follow your inter-state agreement procedure for arranging laboratory testing.
- If CDC provides testing for your state, follow the enclosed guidelines that include instructions on specimen collection and shipment. As mentioned in these guidelines, please contact the CDC Botulism Laboratory when sending specimens.
- Do not contact the CDC Emergency Operations Center or the CDC botulism duty officer on call to request laboratory testing for infant botulism cases or to report infant botulism test results.
- Do not forward clinical specimens from non-California residents to IBTPP for laboratory testing. IBTPP conducts laboratory testing only for infant residents of California.
- For any questions regarding laboratory testing for infant botulism cases, please contact Carolina Lúquez at (404) 639-0896 (regular business hours) or CLuquez@cdc.gov.