

# LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT DISEASE INVESTIGATION STEPS

NC REPORTABLE DISEASE/CONDITION	INFECTIOUS AGENT (s)
<b>VACCINIA</b>	<i><b>Vaccinia virus</b></i>
<b>PREPARING FOR INVESTIGATION</b>	
<b>KNOW THE DISEASE/CONDITION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read about Vaccinia virus in the CD Manual.</li> <li>• See the case definition for Vaccinia in the CD Manual.</li> <li>• Study APHA <i>Control of Communicable Diseases Manual</i>, 19<sup>th</sup> ed., pp 563 - 564.</li> <li>• Refer to CDC MMWR: Surveillance Guidelines for Smallpox Vaccine (<i>Vaccinia</i>) Adverse Reactions. February 3, 2006; 55(RR01). Available at: <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5501a1.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5501a1.htm</a></li> <li>• Print and review reporting forms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Part 1: Confidential Disease Report (DHHS 2124)</i></li> <li><i>Part 2: Vaccinia (DHHS/EPI #70)</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION</b>	
<b>COLLECT CLINICAL INFORMATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain admission note, progress note and discharge summary if patient hospitalized for this disease/condition.</li> <li>• Obtain healthcare provider clinical notes from date(s) of service for this disease/condition.</li> <li>• Look for evidence in the medical record that supports clinical findings described in the case definition.</li> </ul>
<b>REVIEW LABORATORY INFORMATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review laboratory report(s) specific to this disease.</li> <li>• Evaluate laboratory results to determine if requirements of the case definition are satisfied.</li> <li>• Contact healthcare provider if further testing of the patient is indicated.</li> </ul>
<b>APPLY THE CASE DEFINITION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the case definition to determine if clinical and laboratory findings meet the case definition criteria.</li> </ul>
<b>IMPLEMENTING CONTROL MEASURES</b>	
<b>ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY SOURCE OF EXPOSURE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review clinical records for potential source(s) of exposure.</li> <li>• If probable source of exposure is not evident in clinical information, interview patient to obtain additional information.</li> </ul>
<b>IMPLEMENT CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT DISEASE AND ADDITIONAL EXPOSURES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the CDC website <a href="http://www.cdc.gov">www.cdc.gov</a> to teach at risk people about the disease.</li> <li>• Restrict contact of persons with deficient immune systems, eczema or other dermatitis conditions and pregnant women.</li> <li>• Virus might be shed until scabs heal. The virus can survive for several days on clothing, bedding or bandages.</li> </ul>

<b>REPORTING INVESTIGATION</b>	
<b>REPORT TO NC COMMUNICABLE DISEASE BRANCH (CD)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter Part 1 and Part 2 Communicable Disease Reports into NC EDSS as a new event, or update the existing event if already entered.</li> <li>• Assign event to State Disease Registrar when case investigation complete.</li> </ul>
<b>CASE FINDING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the course of the investigation, interview other exposed individuals for symptoms of illness.</li> <li>• Refer symptomatic individuals to healthcare provider for evaluation.</li> </ul>
<b>SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS</b>	
<b>RISK COMMUNICATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any case of this disease may pique interest among media, health professionals, government officials, and the public.</li> <li>• Consider risk communication messages to public and health professionals.</li> <li>• Encourage open communication between the local health director and military treatment facilities or other organizations providing smallpox vaccinations in the area.</li> <li>• Outbreaks will need NC HAN alerts, EPI-X reports, MD alerts, and press releases.</li> <li>• NC DHHS Public Information Office (919-733-9190) is available to assist local health departments as needed.</li> </ul>
<b>PERSONAL PROTECTIVE MEASURES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilize gloves and protective clothing to avoid contact with blisters or body fluids.</li> <li>• Vaccine immune globulin can be obtained for laboratory workers through the CDC Drug Service (404) 639-3670.</li> </ul>