Smallpox Case Investigation

Form 2 – Instructions for Obtaining Contact Tracing Information

Form 2A – Case Travel/Activity Calendar: for recording daily events names and contact information for household contacts
Form 2B – Interview Contact/Site Summary Worksheet: for recording names, contact information, and exposure risks
Form 2C – Contact Transportation: for recording information on transportation and places visited outside of work or residence
Form 2D – Out of Area Travel Log: for recording names of places visited outside of home/work area

Introductory Script for Contact Module for Case Interview

It is very important that we ask you questions now because (you/your child/other) may have smallpox infection. If you are the suspected case, the questions relate to you. If we are interviewing you about your child or another family member or a close friend who may have smallpox, these questions relate to that person. The more information that we get from you now, the more chance we have of stopping the spread of this very serious illness.

We will be asking you lots of questions about people (you or insert name for child/other______________) have been around, places (you or insert name for child/other______________) have been including regular activities such as work and school and occasional activities or trips (you/your child/other) might have taken, in different periods of time. Firstly we need to know who (you or insert name for child/other______________) have been in close contact with and where you have been since you became sick starting with the first day of your fever. These people may have caught smallpox from (you or insert name for child/other______________) and we can prevent them from coming down with smallpox or make the illness less serious if we vaccinate them as soon as possible. Every hour counts.

We will show you a calendar to help you remember this information. After that, we will talk with you about a different time period before you got sick to try and find out where you caught this infection.

We will start by looking at the calendar.

Instructions for interviewer: Please record date of fever onset, date of rash onset and date of interview on the calendar. Mark the days from fever onset until today (date of interview) in blue and refer to the calendar as you review activities each day. The interview period starts on the day of the interview and goes back to the day of fever onset. It may be helpful to list activities for each day as that day is discussed. Keep in mind that we are interested in the “Who, what, where, how, and when”.

Interview Checklist

☐ Accurately identify appropriate interview period (when patient could have been contagious)

☐ Begin with overview of entire interview period using the Case Travel/Activity Calendar addressing activities below and getting a preliminary list of contacts (named, unnamed or groups) in the following priority order:
  1st - HH contacts; immediate family members and others with >3 hours in house since rash
  2nd - contacts with close contact to rash (<6 ft) for >3 hours
  3rd - contacts with close contact to rash (<6 ft) for 1-3 hours
  4th - contacts with close contact to rash (<6 ft) for <1 hour
  5th - contacts with >6ft contact to rash for >1 hour
  6th - contacts with >6ft contact to rash for <1 hour
Case Travel/Activity

- Type of Residence; single detached house, apartment with separate entrance; apartment or dormitory with shared entrance or other areas, shelter or other

Routine Activity

- work
  - name and address; # of companies in bldg; setting (office, cube); # employees; # in office; schedule; work outside the office; contact with public or others from outside
  - school
    - name & address; classes; schedule; other school activities; off-campus activities
  - shopping (gas, groceries, mall, video store)
  - exercise
  - church
  - laundry (either at the laundromat or cleaned by someone else or sent out)
  - picking up or taking others (children etc) to places
  - other
  - mode of travel to and from routine activities

Health Care Provider visit

- name & address of provider(s), clinic(s), or facilities visited; locations visited within facility (i.e. emergency room, outpatient waiting area, etc)

Group Events (Was there assigned seating? Did case cough or have close contact with any other attendees?)

- sporting events
- theater
- family gathering
- holiday event
- festivals
- work parties
- other
- mode of travel

Visitors

- overnight
- family
- friends
- mailman, UPS, repairmen
- hosting a party
- other

Out of Town Travel

- alone or with a group
- airplane (including airports)
- car (gas stations, rest stops, restaurants/fast food)
- train, boat, bus other
- hotels
- restaurants
- tours
- sightseeing
- other

After overview, start back from date of interview and go back day by day until day of fever onset accounting for any gaps in time

Obtain detailed information for each person and group:

- name, age, sex, description, address, phone number(s), time and place of contact

  - for unnamed contacts or groups, obtain as much information as possible on their description, locating information or other information that may assist in locating them.

  - obtain enough information on the duration and proximity of contact to assign contacts to the appropriate risk category (i.e. beginning and end time for each exposure, distance between patient and contact during exposure, accurate symptom history of patient to verify if contacts were during infectious period)