### LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT DISEASE INVESTIGATION STEPS

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<tr>
<th>NC REPORTABLE DISEASE/CONDITION</th>
<th>INFECTIOUS AGENT (s)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VACCINIA</strong></td>
<td><strong>Vaccinia virus</strong></td>
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#### PREPARING FOR INVESTIGATION

**KNOW THE DISEASE/CONDITION**
- Read about Vaccinia virus in the CD Manual.
- See the case definition for Vaccinia in the CD Manual.
- Refer to CDC MMWR: Surveillance Guidelines for Smallpox Vaccine (Vaccinia) Adverse Reactions. February 3, 2006; 55(RR01). Available at: [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5501a1.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5501a1.htm)
- Print and review reporting forms:
  - *Part 1: Confidential Disease Report (DHHS 2124)*
  - *Part 2: Vaccinia (DHHS/EPI #70)*

#### CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION

**COLLECT CLINICAL INFORMATION**
- Obtain admission note, progress note and discharge summary if patient hospitalized for this disease/condition.
- Obtain healthcare provider clinical notes from date(s) of service for this disease/condition.
- Look for evidence in the medical record that supports clinical findings described in the case definition.

**REVIEW LABORATORY INFORMATION**
- Review laboratory report(s) specific to this disease.
- Evaluate laboratory results to determine if requirements of the case definition are satisfied.
- Contact healthcare provider if further testing of the patient is indicated.

**APPLY THE CASE DEFINITION**
- Use the case definition to determine if clinical and laboratory findings meet the case definition criteria.

#### IMPLEMENTING CONTROL MEASURES

**ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY SOURCE OF EXPOSURE**
- Review clinical records for potential source(s) of exposure.
- If probable source of exposure is not evident in clinical information, interview patient to obtain additional information.

**IMPLEMENT CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT DISEASE AND ADDITIONAL EXPOSURES**
- Use the CDC website [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) to teach at risk people about the disease.
- Restrict contact of persons with deficient immune systems, eczema or other dermatitis conditions and pregnant women.
- Virus might be shed until scabs heal. The virus can survive for several days on clothing, bedding or bandages.
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| REPORT TO NC COMMUNICABLE DISEASE BRANCH (CD)               | • Enter Part 1 and Part 2 Communicable Disease Reports into NC EDSS as a new event, or update the existing event if already entered.  
• Assign event to State Disease Registrar when case investigation complete. |
| CASE FINDING                                                | • During the course of the investigation, interview other exposed individuals for symptoms of illness.  
• Refer symptomatic individuals to healthcare provider for evaluation. |
| SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS                                      |                                                                 |
| RISK COMMUNICATION                                          | • Any case of this disease may pique interest among media, health professionals, government officials, and the public.  
• Consider risk communication messages to public and health professionals.  
• Encourage open communication between the local health director and military treatment facilities or other organizations providing smallpox vaccinations in the area.  
• Outbreaks will need NC HAN alerts, EPI-X reports, MD alerts, and press releases.  
• NC DHHS Public Information Office (919-733-9190) is available to assist local health departments as needed. |
| PERSONAL PROTECTIVE MEASURES                                | • Utilize gloves and protective clothing to avoid contact with blisters or body fluids.  
• Vaccine immune globulin can be obtained for laboratory workers through the CDC Drug Service (404) 639-3670. |