

Possible Smallpox Exposure Information Sheet

(Created 01/09/02)

You have been given this information sheet because you have been exposed to a patient that has a rash and/or other symptoms that are suspicious for smallpox.

We would like to gather information from you so that we can reach you in the rare chance that this patient is confirmed to have smallpox. We have sent specimens from this patient to the CDC for testing and expect to hear back from them within approximately 2 to 3 days. We will let you know the results of these tests as soon as possible. In the event that this patient is confirmed to have smallpox, the CDC will provide you with vaccine within the next few days. Vaccine given within 4 days after exposure to smallpox has been shown to lessen the severity of illness or even prevent it altogether.

While we are waiting for the results of the CDC testing, we ask you to follow the following instructions:

- Take your temperature in the morning and early evening each day. If your temperature goes above 100° F or if you have flu-like symptoms, contact your doctor immediately for further instructions.
- If your temperature is not above 100° F, you can continue your usually daily activities, such as going to work and attending school, but we request that you do not travel outside of your local area.

For your information, we have attached a [Smallpox – Frequently Asked Questions](#) sheet that may answer some of the questions you may have about smallpox.

If any additional questions arise while you are waiting for us to get in touch with you, please contact Stanford University Medical Center's Infection Control Team by calling the Stanford University Medical Center Page Operator at (650) 723-6661.