**CHLA HOSPITAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUA**L

**Algorithm for Management of Varicella Exposure**

**ORIGINAL DATE:** 11/06

**REVISED DATE**: 10/20

**POLICY NUMBER: IC -** 303.2**CHAPTER:** Infection Control

**APPROVED BY:** Hospital Infection Control Committee

Identify Index Case

**Confirmed**

Isolation of VZV from a clinical specimen

Detection of VZV DNA by PCR tests from a clinical specimen, ideally scabs, vesicular fluid, or cells from the base of a lesion

Fourfold or greater rise in serum varicella IgG antibody titer

**Probable**

Index of suspicion is high:

Acute onset of diffuse maculopapular/vesicular rash without other apparent cause

No history of Varicella vaccination or prior Varicella infection

Possible exposure to VZV patient in the past 3 weeks

No Action

No

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| --- | --- |
| Is the index Case Infectious?  Infectious Period  A) Two days before onset of rash until lesions are crusted over  Does the case require  exposure follow-up?   1. Disseminated lesions 2. Localized lesions on >2 dermatomes 3. Localized lesions in an |  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
| immunocompromised patient |

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| **Identify Exposed Contacts** |  |
| Students, visitors)  Note: exposure to VZV is defined as prolonged contact (>5 mins) in |
|  |
| adjacent rooms or waiting rooms if index patient not isolated properly |

(patients, employees/

* **Notify Infection Control Ext 15510 (**during normal business hours). After hours/holidays/weekends contact ID physician on call and leave a message on the IC voicemail
* Begin collecting names of exposed contacts
* After hours contact LACDPH to report case (213) 240-7941

Yes

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| Determine who among the exposed is **susceptible**: (Not immunized against VZV, no history of VZV disease, immunocompromised patients) |
|  |

Patients

If immunocompromised: Administer Varicella-Zoster Immune Gloublin within 3-5 days post-exposure but up to 10 days post exposure.

No

No Action

Yes

All patients:

Monitor for symptoms and isolate in Airborne Precautions from day

8-21 after exposure. If patient received VariZIG or IGIV day 8-28 after exposure

Appropriate work restrictions if active disease

CHLA Team Members

●Off work for incubation period,

8-21 days following exposure

Employee contacts EHS for clearance to return to work

No

No Action

Yes

Limit or restrict hospital visitation for incubation period

Visitors

No

No Action

Yes