

**REGION I EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
STANDING MEDICAL ORDERS
BLS**

SMO: Brucellosis

Revised Date:

Overview: Brucellosis is usually a disease of animals caused by one of four species of Brucella: B. abortus, B. canis, B. melitensis and B. suis. The most common route of exposure in the United States is by ingestion of contaminated milk and dairy products. Cutaneous transmission through abrasions is possible. Weaponized Brucella species would involve an inhalational exposure. The incubation period ranges from 5 days to more than 6 months post exposure, usually 5 to 30 days.

INFORMATION NEEDED

- ___ History related to the present illness
- ___ Any patient family members or friends displaying any signs and symptoms of this disease

OBJECTIVE FINDINGS

- ___ • **The clinical features of brucellosis are extremely variable and differ based on which category of infection is present. Categories can be divided into acute, undulant and chronic forms.**
 - **Acute Form (< 8 weeks from onset): “flu like” symptoms including fever, profuse sweating, malaise, anorexia, headache, muscle and back pain. Neurologic infection and pericarditis or endocarditis may occur in severe cases.**
 - **Undulant Form (<1 year from onset): may display undulant fevers, arthritis orchiepididymitis in young males.**
 - **Chronic Form (>1 year from onset): symptoms may mimic chronic fatigue syndrome, with episodes of depression**

BLS

- ___ Standard isolation techniques to be used by EMS personnel, particularly if the EMS personnel have any type of open wounds on their skin
- ___ Vital signs
- ___ Assess for any other medical or trauma issues
- ___ Supportive care with supplemental oxygenation if needed with a nasal cannula at 2-6 LPM or by non-rebreather mask at 10-15 LPM

Documentation of adherence to protocol:

- ___ History related to the illness
- ___ Oxygen provided

Medical Control Contact Criteria

None

**REGION I EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
STANDING MEDICAL ORDERS
ALS**

SMO: Brucellosis

Revised Date:

Overview: Brucellosis is usually a disease of animals caused by one of four species of Brucella: B. abortus, B. canis, B. melitensis and B. suis. The most common route of exposure in the United States is by ingestion of contaminated milk and dairy products. Cutaneous transmission through abrasions is possible. Weaponized Brucella species would involve an inhalational exposure. The incubation period ranges from 5 days to more than 6 months post exposure, usually 5 to 30 days.

INFORMATION NEEDED

- History related to the present illness
- Any patient family members or friends displaying any signs and symptoms of this disease

OBJECTIVE FINDINGS

- **The clinical features of brucellosis are extremely variable and differ based on which category of infection is present. Categories can be divided into acute, undulant and chronic forms.**
 - **Acute Form (< 8 weeks from onset): “flu like” symptoms including fever, profuse sweating, malaise, anorexia, headache, muscle and back pain. Neurologic infection and pericarditis or endocarditis may occur in severe cases.**
 - **Undulant Form (<1 year from onset): may display undulant fevers, arthritis orchiepididymitis in young males.**
 - **Chronic Form (>1 year from onset): symptoms may mimic chronic fatigue syndrome, with episodes of depression**

ALS

- Standard isolation techniques to be used by EMS personnel, particularly if the EMS personnel have any type of open wounds on their skin
- Vital signs
- Assess for any other medical or trauma issues
- Supportive care with supplemental oxygenation if needed with a nasal cannula at 2-6 LPM or by non-rebreather mask at 10-15 LPM

Documentation of adherence to protocol:

- History related to the illness
- Oxygen provided

Medical Control Contact Criteria

None

