ATTENTION PROVIDERS:  
HEROIN MAY BE CONTAMINATED WITH BOTULISM

ANTITOXIN must be requested from Public Health ASAP

1. Establish presence of SIGNS:
   - Acute bilateral cranial nerve palsies (e.g., diplopia, ptosis, dysarthria)
   - Symmetric descending weakness/paralysis
   - Possible progression to respiratory failure

2. Determine if patient has risk factors for WOUND BOTULISM:
   - Heroin use
   - Subcutaneous or intramuscular injection (skin or muscle “popping”)

3. CALL your Department of Public Health for antitoxin, botulism testing, and consultation:
   - LA County: (213) 240-7941  After Hours: (213) 974-1234
   - Long Beach: (562) 570-4302  After Hours: (562) 500-5537
   - Pasadena: (626) 744-6089  After Hours: (626) 744-6043

Antitoxin MUST be administered ASAP:

- Treatment halts progression but does not reverse symptoms
- Do NOT wait for lab confirmation or debridement

More guidance available at:

LA County Public Health: [http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/Diseases/Botulism.htm](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/Diseases/Botulism.htm)

CDC: [https://www.cdc.gov/botulism/](https://www.cdc.gov/botulism/)