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Brucellosis (  
Brucella  
spp.)  
1997 Case Definition  
Brucellosis (  
Brucella  
spp.)  
1997 Case Definition  
NOTE:  
A surveillance case definition is a set of uniform criteria used to define a disease for public health surveillance. Surveillance case definitions enable public health officials to classify and count cases consistently across reporting jurisdictions. Surveillance case definitions are not intended to be used by healthcare providers for making a clinical diagnosis or determining how to meet an individual patient’s health needs.  
Clinical Description  
An illness characterized by acute or insidious onset of fever, night sweats, undue fatigue, anorexia, weight loss, headache, and arthralgia  
Laboratory Criteria For Diagnosis  
Isolation of  
Brucella  
spp. from a clinical specimen,  
OR  
Fourfold or greater rise in  
Brucella  
agglutination titer between acute- and convalescent-phase serum specimens obtained greater than or equal to 2 weeks apart and studied at the same laboratory,  
OR  
Demonstration by immunofluorescence of  
Brucella  
spp. in a clinical specimen  
Case Classification  
Probable  
A clinically compatible case that is epidemiologically linked to a confirmed case or that has supportive serology (i.e.,  
Brucella  
agglutination titer of greater than or equal to 160 in one or more serum specimens obtained after onset of symptoms)  
Confirmed  
A clinically compatible illness that is laboratory confirmed  
Comments  
The 1997 case definition appearing on this page was previously published in the 1990 MMWR Recommendations and Reports titled  
Case Definitions for Public Health Surveillance  
.  
1  
Thus, the 1990 and 1997 versions of the case definition are identical  
References  
CDC. (1990). Case Definitions for Public Health Surveillance.  
MMWR  
, 39(RR-13), 1-43.  
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00025629.htm  
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NNDSS receives and shares case data from state, local, and territorial health departments to help public health monitor, control, and prevent serious diseases.  
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