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Brucellosis (Brucella spp.) 2010 Case Definition | CDC  
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Brucellosis (  
Brucella  
spp.)  
2010 Case Definition  
Brucellosis (  
Brucella  
spp.)  
2010 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.  
CSTE Position Statement(s)  
09-ID-14  
Clinical Description  
An illness characterized by acute or insidious onset of fever and one or more of the following: night sweats, arthralgia, headache, fatigue, anorexia, myalgia, weight loss, arthritis/spondylitis, meningitis, or focal organ involvement (endocarditis, orchitis/epididymitis, hepatomegaly, splenomegaly).  
Laboratory Criteria For Diagnosis  
Definitive  
Culture and identification of  
Brucella  
spp. from clinical specimens  
Evidence of a fourfold or greater rise in  
Brucella  
antibody titer between acute- and convalescent-phase serum specimens obtained greater than or equal to 2 weeks apart  
Presumptive  
Brucella  
total antibody titer of greater than or equal to 160 by standard tube agglutination test (SAT) or  
Brucella  
microagglutination test (BMAT) in one or more serum specimens obtained after onset of symptoms  
Detection of  
Brucella  
DNA in a clinical specimen by PCR assay  
Case Classification  
Probable  
A clinically compatible illness with at least one of the following:  
Epidemiologically linked to a confirmed human or animal brucellosis case  
Presumptive laboratory evidence, but without definitive laboratory evidence, of  
Brucella  
infection  
Confirmed  
A clinically compatible illness with definitive laboratory evidence of  
Brucella  
infection  
Related Case Definition(s)  
Brucellosis (  
Brucella  
spp.) | 2025 Case Definition  
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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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