# Extracted Content from https://ndc.services.cdc.gov/case-definitions/chlamydia-trachomatis-infection-2022/

Chlamydia Trachomatis Infection 2022 Case Definition | CDC  
Skip directly to site content  
Skip directly to search  
An official website of the United States government  
Here's how you know  
Official websites use .gov  
A .gov website belongs to an official government organization in the United States.  
Secure .gov websites use HTTPS  
A  
lock  
(  
) or  
https://  
means you've safely connected to the .gov website. Share sensitive information only on official, secure websites.  
National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS)  
Explore Topics  
Search  
Search  
Clear Input  
For Everyone  
About About National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System  
What is Case Surveillance?  
Case Surveillance Modernization  
Infectious Disease Tables  
Non-Infectious Disease Data  
Technical Resource Center  
Case Surveillance in Action  
Contact Us  
View all  
Related Topics:  
NDC Application  
View All  
search  
close search  
search  
National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS)  
Menu  
Close  
search  
For Everyone  
About About National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System  
What is Case Surveillance?  
Case Surveillance Modernization  
Infectious Disease Tables  
Non-Infectious Disease Data  
Technical Resource Center  
Case Surveillance in Action  
Contact Us  
View All  
Related Topics  
NDC Application  
View All  
National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS)  
About About National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System  
What is Case Surveillance?  
Case Surveillance Modernization  
Infectious Disease Tables  
Non-Infectious Disease Data  
Technical Resource Center  
Case Surveillance in Action  
Contact Us  
View All  
August 30, 2021  
Case Definitions  
Message Mapping Guides  
Supporting Documents for Implementation  
Event Codes & Other Surveillance Resources  
Chlamydia Trachomatis  
Infection  
2022 Case Definition  
Chlamydia Trachomatis  
Infection  
2022 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)  
21-ID-06  
Background  
Chlamydia is a common sexually transmitted infection caused by the bacterium,  
C. trachomatis  
, which can be transmitted during vaginal, anal, or oral sex. About three quarters of infected women and about half of infected men have no symptoms. If symptoms occur, they usually appear within 1–3 weeks after exposure. In women, symptoms may include abnormal vaginal discharge, urethritis, lower abdominal pain, pain during intercourse, and bleeding between menstrual periods. In men, symptoms include penile discharge and urethritis. In up to 40% of untreated women, infection can spread into the uterus or fallopian tubes and cause pelvic inflammatory disease. Infected women are also up to five times more likely to become infected with HIV, if exposed. Complications among men are rare. Infection sometimes spreads to the epididymis, causing pain, fever, and, rarely, sterility.  
Lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV) is a specific type of chlamydial infection caused by serovars L  
1  
–L  
3  
. LGV became nationally notifiable in 1941 but was removed from the Nationally Notifiable Conditions list as a separate notifiable condition in 1995 when chlamydia was added. However, with chlamydia being nationally notifiable and LGV being a specific type of chlamydia, as the case definition is currently written, LGV is nationally notifiable as chlamydia, but is not notifiable as a separate condition from chlamydia. It is important to distinguish between LGV and non-LGV infections in chlamydia case report data.  
The language of the  
C. trachomatis  
infection case definition to include more current diagnostic technologies and to be inclusive of all possible clinical outcomes for jurisdictions to use when classifying chlamydial infections caused by LGV serovars. Allowing for the distinction between LGV and non-LGV infections in  
C. trachomatis  
infection case report data will provide us with the ability to evaluate at least the minimum burden of LGV disease in the United States.  
Clinical Description  
Chlamydia is a sexually transmitted infection that has a variable clinical course based on the serotype causing infection. Serovars D-K of  
C. trachomatis  
are the typical cause of chlamydial infections in the United States, and infection with  
C. trachomatis  
can result in urethritis, epididymitis, cervicitis, acute salpingitis, or other syndromes when sexually transmitted; however, the infection is often asymptomatic. Perinatal infections may result in inclusion conjunctivitis and pneumonia in newborns. Other syndromes caused by  
C. trachomatis  
include LGV and trachoma.  
LGV is a specific type of chlamydial infection, caused by the serovars L  
1  
, L  
2  
, and L  
3  
of  
C. trachomatis  
. Symptomatic LGV can be divided into three stages. The primary stage can include a small ulcer or lesion at the site of inoculation (genital, rectal, or oral/oropharyngeal sites). The secondary stage can include a syndrome featuring cervical, inguinal, and/or femoral lymphadenopathy that may rupture or an anorectal syndrome featuring proctocolitis (including mucoid or hemorrhagic rectal discharge, anal pain, constipation, fever, and/or tenesmus). Late stage LGV typically involves sequelae, such as genital elephantiasis, lymph node scarring, chronic colorectal fistulas and strictures, perirectal abscesses, and/or anal fissures. LGV may also be asymptomatic.  
Laboratory Criteria  
Demonstration of  
C. trachomatis  
in a clinical specimen by detection of antigen or nucleic acid,  
OR  
Detection of LGV-specific antigen or nucleic acid in a clinical specimen,  
OR  
Isolation of  
C. trachomatis  
by culture  
Criteria to Distinguish a New Case from an Existing Case  
For surveillance purposes, a new case of  
C. trachomatis  
infection (caused by either non-LGV or LGV serotypes) meets the following criteria:  
There is no evidence of a prior  
C. trachomatis  
infection that has been reported as a case;  
OR  
There is evidence of a prior  
C. trachomatis  
infection that has been reported as a case, but the prior infection’s specimen collection date or treatment date was >30 days before the current infection’s specimen collection date;  
OR  
There is evidence of a prior  
C. trachomatis  
infection that has been reported as a case with a specimen collection date or treatment date ≤30 days from the current infection’s specimen collection date,  
but  
there is evidence of re-infection.  
Case Classification  
Confirmed  
A case that meets laboratory evidence.  
Case Classification Comments  
The following provides guidance for health departments to use for the classification and notification of cases of  
C. trachomatis  
infection caused by serovars L  
1  
, L  
2  
, and L  
3  
(also known as lymphogranuloma venereum, or LGV). Cases should be reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through voluntary notification as  
C. trachomatis  
infection and should be marked as LGV in the CDC case report data, as defined below.  
Classification of C. trachomatis infection cases to identify LGV.  
Verified: a person with detection of LGV-specific antigen or nucleic acid in a clinical specimen. This includes asymptomatic cases.  
Likely: a person with demonstration of C. trachomatis in a clinical specimen by detection of antigen or nucleic acid  
OR  
isolation of C. trachomatis by culture;  
AND  
who demonstrates clinical symptoms or signs consistent with LGV;  
AND  
has no negative test for LGV-specific antigen or nucleic acid in a clinical specimen.  
Related Case Definition(s)  
Chlamydia Trachomatis  
Infection | 2010 Case Definition  
Back to Top  
Sources  
Print  
Share  
Facebook  
LinkedIn  
Twitter  
Syndicate  
Content Source:  
Case Definitions  
Message Mapping Guides  
Supporting Documents for Implementation  
Event Codes & Other Surveillance Resources  
National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS)  
NNDSS receives and shares case data from state, local, and territorial health departments to help public health monitor, control, and prevent serious diseases.  
View All  
About About National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System  
What is Case Surveillance?  
Case Surveillance Modernization  
Infectious Disease Tables  
Non-Infectious Disease Data  
Technical Resource Center  
Case Surveillance in Action  
Contact Us  
View All  
Sign up for Email Updates  
Contact CDC  
Organization  
Policies  
Web Policies  
Languages  
Languages  
Español  
Language Assistance  
Archive  
CDC Archive  
Public Health Publications  
Contact Us  
About CDC  
Organization  
Policies  
Web Policies  
Languages  
Languages  
Español  
Language Assistance  
Archive  
CDC Archive  
Public Health Publications  
HHS.gov  
USA.gov