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Cholera (Vibrio cholerae O1/O139) 1990 Case Definition | CDC  
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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  
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Case Definitions  
Message Mapping Guides  
Supporting Documents for Implementation  
Event Codes & Other Surveillance Resources  
Cholera (  
Vibrio cholerae  
O1/O139)  
1990 Case Definition  
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Vibrio cholerae  
O1/O139)  
1990 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 diarrhea and/or vomiting. Severity is variable.  
Laboratory Criteria For Diagnosis  
Isolation of toxigenic (cholera toxin-producing)  
Vibrio cholerae  
01 from stool or vomitus,  
OR  
Significant rise in vibriocidal or antitoxic antibodies in acute- and early convalescent-phase sera,  
OR  
Significant fall in vibriocidal antibodies in early and late convalescent-phase sera among persons not recently vaccinated  
Case Classification  
Confirmed  
A clinically compatible illness that is laboratory confirmed  
Comments  
When other cases are known to be occurring, a less than fourfold rise in titer between acute- and convalescent-phase serum may be considered significant. Likewise, a less than fourfold fall between early and late convalescent-phase sera may be important in these circumstances. Only confirmed cases should be reported to the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS). Illnesses due to strains of  
V. cholerae  
other than toxigenic  
V. cholerae  
01 should not be reported as cases of cholera.  
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Cholera (  
Vibrio cholerae  
O1/O139) | 1996 Case Definition  
Cholera (  
Vibrio cholerae  
O1/O139) | 1995 Case Definition  
Back to Top  
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Print  
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Facebook  
LinkedIn  
Twitter  
Syndicate  
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Message Mapping Guides  
Supporting Documents for Implementation  
Event Codes & Other Surveillance Resources  
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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.  
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  
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Contact Us  
About CDC  
Organization  
Policies  
Web Policies  
Languages  
Languages  
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