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Diphtheria (Corynebacterium diphtheriae) 1990 Case Definition | CDC  
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Diphtheria (  
Corynebacterium diphtheriae  
)  
1990 Case Definition  
Diphtheria (  
Corynebacterium diphtheriae  
)  
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 upper respiratory tract illness characterized by sore throat, low-grade fever, and an adherent membrane of the tonsil(s), pharynx, and/or nose without other apparent cause (as reported by a health professional)  
Laboratory Criteria For Diagnosis  
Isolation of  
Corynebacterium diphtheriae  
from a clinical specimen  
Case Classification  
Probable  
Meets the clinical case definition, is not laboratory confirmed, and is not epidemiologically linked to a laboratory-confirmed case  
Confirmed  
Meets the clinical case definition and is either laboratory confirmed or epidemiologically linked to a laboratory-confirmed case  
Comments  
Cutaneous diphtheria should not be reported.  
Related Case Definition(s)  
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Corynebacterium diphtheriae  
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Diphtheria (  
Corynebacterium diphtheriae  
) | 2010 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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