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Gonorrhea (Neisseria gonorrhoeae) 2014 Case Definition | CDC  
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Gonorrhea (  
Neisseria gonorrhoeae  
)  
2014 Case Definition  
Gonorrhea (  
Neisseria gonorrhoeae  
)  
2014 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)  
13-ID-03  
Background  
Gonorrhea is a common sexually transmitted disease caused by the bacterium,  
Neisseria gonorrhoeae  
, which can be transmitted during vaginal, anal, or oral sex, and at birth to a newborn.  
Clinical Description  
A sexually transmitted infection commonly manifested by urethritis, cervicitis, proctitis, salpingitis, or pharyngitis. Infection may be asymptomatic.  
Laboratory Criteria For Diagnosis  
Observation of gram-negative intracellular diplococci in a urethral smear obtained from a male or an endocervical smear obtained from a female, or  
Isolation of typical gram-negative, oxidase-positive diplococci by culture (presumptive  
Neisseria gonorrhoeae  
) from a clinical specimen, or  
Demonstration of  
N. gonorrhoeae  
in a clinical specimen by detection of antigen or nucleic acid  
Case Classification  
Probable  
Demonstration of gram-negative intracellular diplococci in a urethral smear obtained from a male or an endocervical smear obtained from a female.  
Confirmed  
A person with laboratory isolation of typical gram-negative, oxidase-positive diplococcic by culture (presumptive  
Neisseria gonorrhoeae  
) from a clinical specimen, or demonstration of  
N. gonorrhoeae  
in a clinical specimen by detection of antigen or detection of nucleic acid via nucleic acid amplification (e.g., Polymerase Chain Reaction [PCR]) or hybridization with a nucleic acid probe.  
Related Case Definition(s)  
Gonorrhea (  
Neisseria gonorrhoeae  
infection) | 2023 Case Definition  
Gonorrhea (  
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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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