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Leptospirosis (Leptospira interrogans) 1997 Case Definition | CDC  
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Leptospirosis (  
Leptospira interrogans  
)  
1997 Case Definition  
Leptospirosis (  
Leptospira interrogans  
)  
1997 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 fever, headache, chills, myalgia, conjunctival suffusion, and less frequently by meningitis, rash, jaundice, or renal insufficiency. Symptoms may be biphasic.  
Laboratory Criteria For Diagnosis  
Isolation of  
Leptospira  
from a clinical specimen,  
OR  
Fourfold or greater increase in  
Leptospira  
agglutination titer between acute- and convalescent-phase serum specimens obtained greater than or equal to 2 weeks apart and studied at the same laboratory,  
OR  
Demonstration of  
Leptospira  
in a clinical specimen by immunofluorescence  
Case Classification  
Probable  
A clinically compatible case with supportive serologic findings (i.e., a  
Leptospira  
agglutination titer of greater than or equal to 200 in one or more serum specimens)  
Confirmed  
A clinically compatible case that is laboratory confirmed  
Comments  
The 1997 case definition appearing on this page was previously published in the 1990  
MMWR  
Recommendations and Reports titled  
Case Definitions for Public Health Surveillance  
.  
1  
Thus, the 1990 and 1997 versions of the case definition are identical.  
References  
CDC. (1990). Case Definitions for Public Health Surveillance.  
MMWR  
, 39(RR-13), 1-43.  
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00025629.htm  
Related Case Definition(s)  
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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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