Appendix B: Provincial Case Definitions for Diseases of Public Health Significance

Disease: Meningitis, acute: i) bacterial; ii) viral, and iii) other

Effective: February 2019
Meningitis, acute: i) bacterial; ii) viral, and iii) other

1.0 Provincial Reporting
Confirmed and probable cases of disease

2.0 Type of Surveillance
Case-by-case

3.0 Case Classification

3.1 Confirmed Case
Clinically compatible (see Section 5.0) signs and symptoms of meningitis with:
- Culture isolation of an organism (i.e., bacterial, viral or other) from an appropriate clinical site (e.g., cerebrospinal fluid [CSF], blood)
  OR
- Detection of antigen (i.e., bacterial, viral or other) from an appropriate clinical site (e.g., CSF, blood)
  OR
- Detection of nucleic acid (i.e., bacterial, viral or other) from an appropriate clinical site (e.g., CSF, blood)
  OR
- Serologic confirmation of infection with an organism known to cause meningitis

3.2 Probable Case
Clinically compatible signs and symptoms of meningitis in the absence of laboratory confirmation of a causative organism.

4.0 Laboratory Evidence

4.1 Laboratory Confirmation
Given the variability of etiological organisms, consult with laboratory about appropriate specimens and testing methodologies.

4.2 Approved/Validated Tests
Given the variability of etiological organisms, appropriate specimens and existing and emerging testing methodologies, consult with laboratory.

4.3 Indications and Limitations
Indications and limitations will be based on clinical presentation and be test specific due to the variability of the etiological organism. As noted in sections 4.1 and 4.2, this should be discussed with the laboratory.
5.0 Clinical Evidence
Clinically compatible signs and symptoms are characterized by fever, headache, stiff neck, and pleocytosis.

Note: Cases that present with clinical manifestation that meet the case definition for encephalitis shall be reported as encephalitis (see the Disease Specific Case Definitions for Encephalitis a) Primary, viral; b) Post-infectious; Vaccine-related; Subacute sclerosing panencephalitis, and Unspecified).

6.0 ICD 10 Code(s)
G01 Bacterial
G02.0 Viral
G03.9 Other causes

7.0 Comments
If the causative organism is reportable, the disease should be reported under that condition, e.g. meningitis due to *Haemophilus influenzae* type b, *Neisseria meningitidis*, *Streptococcus Pneumonia*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, Group B streptococcus, *Salmonella* or West Nile Virus.

8.0 Sources

# 9.0 Document History

## Table 1: History of Revisions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revision Date</th>
<th>Document Section</th>
<th>Description of Revisions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 2019</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>New template. Minor revisions were made to support the regulation change to Diseases of Public Health Significance, references were updated. Section 9.0 Document History added.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2019</td>
<td>4.0 Laboratory Evidence</td>
<td>Sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 added.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2019</td>
<td>5.0 Clinical Evidence</td>
<td>Reporting information updated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2019</td>
<td>8.0 References</td>
<td>Updated and renamed Sources.</td>
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