Cholera (*Vibrio cholerae* Type O1)

Merlin reporting code = 00190 Cholera (*Vibrio cholerae*, Type-O1)
Case report form (CRF): *Cholera and Other Vibrio Illness Surveillance Report*
MERLIN EXTENDED DATA REQUIRED

Clinical description
An illness of variable severity that is characterized by diarrhea and/or vomiting; severity is variable.

Laboratory criteria for case classification
- Isolation of toxigenic (i.e., cholera toxin-producing) *Vibrio cholerae* O1 or O139 from stool or vomitus
- Serologic evidence of recent infection.

Case classification
Confirmed:
A clinically compatible illness in a person with laboratory evidence.

Comments
Illnesses caused by strains of *V. cholerae* other than toxigenic *V. cholerae* O1 or O139 should not be reported as cases of cholera. The etiologic agent of a case of cholera should be reported as either *V. cholerae* O1 or *V. cholerae* O139.

Notes
Infections due to *V. cholerae* non-O1 should be reported as vibriosis (*Vibrio cholerae* type non-O1) (Merlin reporting code=00198).

Any available isolates of the organism must be sent to the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories for confirmation and serotyping. This condition has been identified as a potential bioterrorism agent by the CDC.