

Encephalitis (Other, Non-Arboviral)

Reporting code = 03236
Case report form: N/A
NO CRF REQUIRED

Clinical description

An illness in which encephalitis is the major manifestation. Symptoms are due to direct invasion and replication of the infectious agent in the central nervous system, resulting in objective clinical evidence of cerebral or cerebellar dysfunction. Symptoms may include headache, fever, nuchal rigidity, altered consciousness, confusion, stupor, coma, seizures, motor weakness, or accentuated deep tissue reflexes. Postinfectious (or parainfectious) encephalitis is excluded.

Case classification

Confirmed: A clinically compatible illness diagnosed by a physician as primary encephalitis.

Comment

Laboratory studies are important in clinical diagnosis but are not required for reporting purposes. Examples of viruses that may cause encephalitis include herpes simplex, coxsackie virus, or other enterovirus.

Cases of encephalitis due to arboviral infection or infection by a vaccine preventable disease should be assessed using those specific case definitions and reported under those disease codes, not here. Encephalitis, other is reserved for cases of primary encephalitis that are not categorized under one of the already reportable disease or conditions.