### Legionellosis

**Merlin disease code=48280**
**Case report form (CRF): [Legionellosis CRF](#)**
**MERLIN EXTENDED DATA REQUIRED**

#### Background
Legionellosis is associated with two clinically and epidemiologically distinct illnesses: Legionnaires’ disease, which is characterized by fever, myalgia, cough, and clinical or radiographic pneumonia, and Pontiac fever, a milder illness without pneumonia.

#### Clinical criteria for case classification
One or more of the following:
- Fever,
- Or myalgia,
- Or cough,
- Or pneumonia.

#### Laboratory criteria for case classification
**Confirmatory:**
One or more of the following:
- Isolation of any *Legionella* organism from respiratory secretions, lung tissue, pleural fluid, or other normally sterile fluid (e.g., culture);
- Or detection of *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 1 antigen in urine (e.g., antigen detection);
- Or fourfold or greater rise in antibody titer to either single *Legionella* species or multiple species (e.g., antibody titers).

**Supportive:**
One or more of the following:
- Single elevated antibody titer to either single *Legionella* species or multiple species (e.g., antibody detection);
- Or detection of specific *Legionella* antigen or staining of the organism in respiratory secretions, lung tissue, or pleural fluid (e.g., antigen detection);
- Or detection of *Legionella* species by nucleic acid assay (e.g., polymerase chain reaction [PCR]).

#### Epidemiological criteria for case classification
Not applicable.

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

**Suspect:**
A clinically compatible illness in a person with supportive laboratory evidence.

#### Criteria to distinguish a new case from previous reports
Not applicable.
Comments
Travel-associated: A case that has a history of spending at least one night away from home, either in the same country of residence or abroad, in the two weeks before onset of illness. Indicate if the case is travel-associated in the case notes.

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