



Merlin disease code: 38200 Staphylococcal Enterotoxin B Poisoning



Specimens for all cases must be sent to the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories

No paper case report form

No Merlin extended data

**This condition has been identified as a potential bioterrorism agent by the CDC.**

## Clinical criteria for case classification

Staphylococcal enterotoxin B (SEB) is an exotoxin produced by *Staphylococcus aureus*. Clinical signs include nonspecific flu-like symptoms.

- General symptoms: Fever, chills, headache, myalgia, conjunctival injection, varying degrees of prostration, potentially septic shock, or death.
- Aerosolized exposure: Nonproductive cough for up to four weeks, retrosternal chest pain, and shortness of breath.
- Ingestion exposure: Nausea or vomiting and diarrhea.

## Laboratory criteria for case classification

SEB may be found in blood, urine, respiratory secretions, or nasal swabs for a short period of time and is detected by enzyme immunoassays (EIA) and chemiluminescence tests.

## Epidemiological criteria for case classification

Not applicable.

## Case classification

### Confirmed:

A clinically compatible illness that is diagnosed by clinical signs and epidemiology.

## Criteria to distinguish a new case from previous reports

Not applicable.