Salmonellosis

✉ Isolates or specimens for all cases must be sent to the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories

Merlin extended data optional

Background

Salmonellosis is an illness of variable severity commonly manifested by diarrhea, abdominal pain, nausea, and sometimes vomiting. Asymptomatic infections may occur, and the organism may cause extra-intestinal infections.

Clinical criteria for case classification

One or more of the following: abdominal pain, diarrhea, fever, or vomiting.

Laboratory criteria for case classification

Confirmatory:
Isolation of *Salmonella* from a clinical specimen.

Presumptive:
Detection of *Salmonella* in a clinical specimen using a culture-independent diagnostic test.

Supportive:
One or more of the following:
- Detection of *Salmonella* in a clinical specimen using non-isolate based sequencing,
- **Or** detection of antibodies to *Salmonella* in a clinical specimen using a serologic test,
- **Or** a laboratory test with a methodology not previously mentioned.

Epidemiological criteria for case classification

Either of the following:
- A person who is epidemiologically linked to a confirmed salmonellosis case
- **Or** a person who is epidemiologically linked to a probable salmonellosis case with laboratory criteria.

Case classification

Confirmed:
A person with confirmatory laboratory criteria. When available, O and H antigen serotype characterization should be reported.

Probable:
Either of the following:
- A person with presumptive laboratory criteria
- **Or** a clinically compatible illness in a person with epidemiological criteria.

Suspect:
A person with supportive laboratory criteria.

Salmonellosis
(Continued)

Criteria to distinguish a new case from previous reports

A new case should be created when either:
- A positive laboratory result is received more than 365 days after the most recent positive laboratory result associated with a previously reported case in the same individual
- **Or** two or more different serogroups/serotypes are identified in one or more specimens from the same individual (each serogroup/serotype should be reported as a separate case).

Comments

Asymptomatic infections and infections at sites other than the gastrointestinal tract with any laboratory criteria are considered cases and should be reported.

Infections with *Salmonella* serotype Paratyphi B (tartrate positive) should be reported as salmonellosis (Merlin disease code: 00300) and not as *Salmonella* Paratyphi infection (Merlin disease code: 00210) or *Salmonella* Typhi infection (Merlin disease code: 00200).

Infections with *Salmonella* serotypes Paratyphi A, B (tartrate negative), or C should be reported as *Salmonella* Paratyphi infection (Merlin disease code: 00210), not as salmonellosis (Merlin disease code: 00300).

Infections with *Salmonella* serotype Typhi should be reported as *Salmonella* Typhi infection (Merlin disease code: 00200), not as salmonellosis (Merlin disease code: 00300).

Serogroup and serotype information is critical to understanding the epidemiology of salmonellosis in Florida and all details should be entered accurately and appropriately into Merlin. Additional characterization of *Salmonella* isolates will be performed by the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories (BPHL).