Shigellosis

**Background**
An illness of variable severity commonly manifested by diarrhea, fever, nausea, cramps, and tenesmus. Asymptomatic infections may occur.

**Clinical criteria for case classification**
One or more of the following:
- Abdominal cramps,
- Or diarrhea,
- Or fever,
- Or vomiting.

**Laboratory criteria for case classification**
**Confirmatory:**
Isolation of *Shigella* from a clinical specimen.

**Presumptive:**
Detection of *Shigella* or *Shigella*/EIEC* in a clinical specimen using a culture-independent diagnostic test.

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

* Some multiplex polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests report “*Shigella*/EIEC”. EIEC stands for enteroinvasive *Escherichia coli*.

**Epidemiological criteria for case classification**
Either of the following:
- A person who is epidemiologically linked to a confirmed shigellosis case
- Or a person who is epidemiologically linked to a probable shigellosis case with laboratory evidence.

**Case classification**
**Confirmed:**
A person with confirmatory laboratory evidence.

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

**Suspect:**
A person with supportive laboratory evidence.
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 90 days after the most recent positive laboratory result associated with a previously reported case in the same individual

- Or two or more different serotypes are identified in one or more specimens from the same individual (each serotype should be reported as a separate case).

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

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