Shigellosis

Merlin disease code: 00490 Shigellosis

Paper case report form
Merlin extended data optional

Background
Shigellosis is 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, diarrhea, fever, 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 or more 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 criteria.

Case classification
Confirmed:
A person with confirmatory laboratory criteria.

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.
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 criteria are considered cases and should be reported.