Merlin disease code: 00200 Salmonella Typhi Infection

Isolates or specimens for all confirmed and probable cases must be sent to the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories in Jacksonville; serum specimens for suspect cases should not be forwarded.

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

Background

Infections caused by Salmonella serotype Typhi are often characterized by insidious onset of sustained fever, headache, malaise, anorexia, relative bradycardia, constipation or diarrhea, and nonproductive cough; however, mild and atypical infections may occur. Carriage of Salmonella Typhi may be prolonged.

Clinical criteria for case classification

One or more of the following: fever, diarrhea, abdominal cramps, constipation, anorexia, or relative bradycardia.

Laboratory criteria for case classification

Confirmatory:
Isolation of Salmonella Typhi from a clinical specimen.

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

Supportive:
Detection of antibodies to Salmonella Typhi in a clinical specimen using a serologic test in the absence of a negative Salmonella culture from a blood or stool specimen.

Epidemiological criteria for case classification

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

Case classification

Confirmed:
A person with confirmatory laboratory criteria.

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

Suspect:
A person with supportive laboratory criteria.
Salmonella Typhi Infection (Continued)

Criteria to distinguish a new case from previous reports

A new case should be created when 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 person.

Comments

Infection with *Salmonella* Typhi should only be reported as *Salmonella* Typhi infection (Merlin disease code: 00200) and not as salmonellosis (Merlin disease code: 00300) or *Salmonella* Paratyphi infection (Merlin disease code: 00210).