



Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV; child aged less than 18 months)

Australian national notifiable diseases case definition

This document contains the surveillance case definition for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV; child aged less than 18 months), which is nationally notifiable within Australia. State and territory health departments use this definition to decide whether to notify the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care of a case.

Version	Status	Last reviewed	Implementation date
2.0	Laboratory definitive and laboratory suggestive evidence updated to reflect advances in laboratory testing. Detection of HIV nucleic acid (RNA or DNA) included as laboratory definitive and suggestive evidence.	2022	1 January 2023
1.0	Initial CDNA case definition	2004	2004

HIV may be diagnosed in individuals aged less than 18 months at the time of specimen collection. A diagnosis of HIV excludes a diagnosis of HIV in individuals aged 18 months or older at the time of specimen collection.

Reporting

Both **confirmed cases** and **probable cases** should be notified.

Confirmed case

A confirmed case requires **laboratory definitive evidence** only.

Laboratory definitive evidence

1. Detection of HIV-1 p24 antigen, confirmed by neutralisation, on two separate specimens^{1,2}, on different days

OR

2. Detection of HIV nucleic acid (RNA or DNA) by an HIV nucleic acid test^{3,4}, on two separate specimens^{1,2} on different days

Probable case

A probable case requires **Laboratory suggestive evidence** only.

Laboratory suggestive evidence

1. Detection of HIV-1 p24 antigen, confirmed by neutralisation on a single specimen^{1,2}

OR

2. Detection of HIV nucleic acid (RNA or DNA) by an HIV nucleic acid test^{3,4} on a single specimen^{1,2}

1 Sample must be from a child ≥ 1 month of age.

2 Sample cannot be cord blood.

3 RNA testing should be performed using a commercial nucleic acid test assay with an in-vitro diagnostic (IVD) medical device which has been classified by the Therapeutic Goods Administration as a Class 4 IVD and entered on the [Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods \(ARTG\)](#) for diagnostic purposes.

4 HIV nucleic acid testing should be performed on a dedicated specimen not previously used for other testing.