



Influenza

Australian national notifiable diseases case definition

This document contains the surveillance case definition for influenza, 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
2.1	Addition of clarifying statement around point of care testing as laboratory evidence.	June 2023	01 July 2023
2.0	In Laboratory definitive evidence, removal of point 5. 'Single high titre by CFT or HAI to influenza virus' from the list of Laboratory definitive evidence.	November 2021	01 January 2022
1.1	In Laboratory definitive evidence under point 3. add Laboratory in front of 'Detection of influenza ...' to read 'Laboratory detection of influenza ...'.	14 August 2008	29 October 2008
1.0	Initial case definition	2004	2004

Reporting

Only **confirmed cases** should be notified.

Confirmed cases

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

Laboratory definitive evidence

1. Isolation of influenza virus by culture from appropriate respiratory tract specimen

OR

2. Detection of influenza virus by nucleic acid testing from appropriate respiratory tract specimen¹

OR

3. Laboratory detection of influenza virus antigen from appropriate respiratory tract specimen

OR

4. IgG seroconversion or a significant increase in antibody level or a fourfold or greater rise in titre to influenza virus

¹ The use of point-of-care tests in the context of this case definition are for the purposes of surveillance. These point-of-care tests for detecting influenza virus must be listed on the [Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods](#) and administered by appropriately trained persons in-line with National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council's (NPAAC) [Requirements for Point-of-Care Testing](#). Because point of care tests are sometimes used outside of a quality management governance environment or an accredited pathology laboratory (as described by NPAAC), the [Public Health Laboratory Network \(PHLN\) Influenza laboratory case definition](#) does not apply to tests performed in these settings.