



Botulism

Australian national notifiable diseases case definition

This document contains the surveillance case definition for botulism, 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
1.0	Initial case definition	12 March 2004	12 March 2004

Reporting

Only **confirmed cases** should be notified.

Confirmed case

A confirmed case requires **laboratory definitive evidence** AND **clinical evidence**.

Laboratory definitive evidence

1. Isolation of *Clostridium botulinum*

OR

2. Detection of *Clostridium botulinum* toxin in blood or faeces.

Clinical evidence

A clinically compatible illness (e.g. diplopia, blurred vision, muscle weakness, paralysis, death).