



Leptospirosis

Australian national notifiable diseases case definition

This document contains the surveillance case definition for leptospirosis, 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	Inclusion of a probable category for cases with laboratory suggestive evidence.	November 2021	01 January 2022
1.0	Initial case definition	2004	2004

Reporting

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

Confirmed case

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

Laboratory definitive evidence

1. Isolation of pathogenic *Leptospira* species

OR

2. A fourfold or greater rise in *Leptospira* agglutination titre between acute and convalescent phase sera obtained at least two weeks apart and preferably conducted at the same laboratory

OR

3. A single *Leptospira* micro agglutination titre greater than or equal to 400 supported by a positive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay IgM result.

Probable case

A probable case requires **laboratory suggestive evidence**.

Laboratory suggestive evidence

Detection of pathogenic *Leptospira* species by nucleic acid testing.