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| Communicable Diseases Network Australia logo | Q fever  Australian national notifiable diseases case definition |

This document contains the surveillance case definition for Q fever, 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.

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| Version | Status | Last reviewed | Implementation date |
| 1.0 | Initial CDNA case definition | 2004 | 2004 |

Reporting

Only **confirmed cases** should be notified.

Confirmed case

A confirmed case requires either:

1. **Laboratory definitive evidence**

OR

2. **Laboratory suggestive evidence** AND **clinical evidence.**

Laboratory definitive evidence

1. Detection of *Coxiella burnetii* by nucleic acid testing

OR

2. Seroconversion or significant increase in antibody level to Phase II antigen in paired sera tested in parallel in absence of recent Q fever vaccination

OR

3. Detection of *C. burnetii* by culture (note this practice should be strongly discouraged except where appropriate facilities and training exist.)

Laboratory suggestive evidence

Detection of specific IgM in the absence of recent Q fever vaccination.

Clinical evidence

A clinically compatible disease