



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.

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