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| Communicable Diseases Network Australia logo | Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) infection  Australian national notifiable diseases case definition |

This document contains the surveillance case definition for Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) 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 |
| 1.1 | **Title and throughout**   * Removal of vero toxin producing Escherichia coli (VTEC).   **Laboratory definitive evidence**   * Removal of ‘isolation of Shiga toxin or vero toxin from a clinical isolate of E.coli’.   Replacement of ‘raw bloody diarrhoea’ with ‘faeces’ for detection of genes encoding Shiga toxins. | CDWG April 2016 | 1 July 2016 |
| 1.0 | Initial CDNA case definition | 2004 | 2004 |

Reporting

Only confirmed cases should be notified.

Confirmed case

A confirmed case requires laboratory definitive evidence only.

Laboratory definitive evidence

1. Isolation of Shiga toxigenic *Escherichia coli* from faeces

**OR**

1. Detection of the gene(s) encoding the Shiga toxins (stx1 and/or stx2) in faeces or from a clinical isolate of *Escherichia coli*.

**Note:** Where STEC is isolated or detected in the context of haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS), it should be notified as STEC and HUS.