



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.

Version	Status	Last reviewed	Implementation date
1.1	<p>Title and throughout</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of vero toxin producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> (VTEC). <p>Laboratory definitive evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of 'isolation of Shiga toxin or vero toxin from a clinical isolate of <i>E.coli</i>'. <p>Replacement of 'raw bloody diarrhoea' with 'faeces' for detection of genes encoding Shiga toxins.</p>	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

2. 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.