



Shigellosis

Australian national notifiable diseases case definition

This document contains the surveillance case definition for shigellosis, 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
1.2	Replacement of text and add	2017	1 July 2018
Replacement text			
Only confirmed cases should be notified replaced by Both confirmed cases and probable cases should be notified			
A confirmed case requires Laboratory definitive evidence only replaced by A confirmed case requires			
1. Laboratory definitive evidence			
OR			
2. Laboratory suggestive evidence AND epidemiological evidence.			
Isolation or detection of <i>Shigella</i> species replaced by Isolation of <i>Shigella</i> species.			
Additional text added			
Laboratory suggestive evidence			

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Detection of *Shigella*^a by nucleic acid testing

Epidemiological evidence

An epidemiological link is established when there is:

1. Contact with a confirmed case involving a plausible mode of transmission;
- OR
2. An epidemiologically plausible food or other environmental exposure in common with one or more culture-positive cases.

^aThe ipaH gene is the target of all current nucleic acid tests for *Shigella*. However the ipaH gene is common to *Shigella* species and enteroinvasive *Escherichia coli* (EIEC) and thus is not considered laboratory definitive evidence for *Shigella*.

1.0	Initial case definition	2004	2004
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Reporting

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

Confirmed case

A confirmed case requires

1. laboratory definitive evidence
- OR
2. laboratory suggestive evidence AND epidemiological evidence

Laboratory definitive evidence

Isolation of *Shigella* species.

Laboratory suggestive evidence

Detection of *Shigella*^a by nucleic acid testing

Epidemiological evidence

An epidemiological link is established when there is:

1. Contact with a confirmed case involving a plausible mode of transmission;
- OR
2. An epidemiologically plausible food or other environmental exposure in common with one or more culture-positive cases.

Probable case

A probable case requires **Laboratory suggestive evidence**

* The ipaH gene is the target of all current nucleic acid tests for *Shigella*. However the ipaH gene is common to *Shigella* species and enteroinvasive *Escherichia coli* (EIEC) and thus is not considered laboratory definitive evidence for *Shigella*.