



# Tuberculosis

## Australian national notifiable diseases case definition

This document contains the surveillance case definition for tuberculosis 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	<p><b>Point 1, under Laboratory definitive evidence</b> was rewritten to exclude - <i>M. tuberculosis</i>, <i>M. bovis</i> or <i>M. africanum</i> from notification:</p> <p>1. Isolation of <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> complex (excluding <i>M. bovis</i> var BCG) by culture</p> <p><b>Under Clinical evidence</b> was rewritten to exclude - 'clinical' from the statement on two places: A clinician experienced in tuberculosis makes a clinical diagnosis of tuberculosis, including follow-up assessment to ensure a consistent course.</p>	N/A	1 July 2022
1.1	<p>Point 1, under Laboratory definitive evidence was rewritten to include - excluding <i>Mycobacterium bovis</i> variant BCG from notification: "1. Isolation of <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> complex (<i>M. tuberculosis</i>, <i>M. Bovis</i> or <i>M. africanum</i>, excluding <i>M. bovis</i> var BCG) by culture"</p>	CDWG 7 April 2010	1 January 2011
1.0	Initial case definition	2004	2004

## Reporting

Only **confirmed cases** should be notified.

### Confirmed case

A confirmed case requires a diagnosis accepted by the Director of Tuberculosis Control (or equivalent) in the relevant jurisdiction, based on either:

#### 1. Laboratory definitive evidence

OR

#### 2. Clinical evidence

### Laboratory definitive evidence

1. Isolation of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (excluding *M. bovis* var BCG) by culture

OR

2. Detection of *M. tuberculosis* complex by nucleic acid testing EXCEPT where this is likely to be due to previously treated or inactive disease.

### Clinical evidence

A clinician experienced in tuberculosis makes a clinical diagnosis of tuberculosis, including follow-up assessment to ensure a consistent course.