**Vibrio vulnificus infection**

2017 Case Definition (North Carolina)
CSTE Position Statement Number: 16-ID-05

**Clinical Description**

An infection of variable severity characterized by watery diarrhea, primary septicemia, or wound infection. Asymptomatic infections may occur, and the organism may cause extra-intestinal infection.

**Laboratory Criteria for Diagnosis**

**Supportive laboratory evidence:** Detection of *Vibrio vulnificus* from a clinical specimen (i.e. stool, urine, fluid aspirate, blood, etc) using a culture-independent diagnostic test (CIDT).\(^1\)

**Confirmatory laboratory evidence:** Isolation (i.e. culture) of *Vibrio vulnificus* from a clinical specimen (i.e. stool, urine, fluid aspirate, blood, etc).

**Case classification**

**Confirmed:** A case that meets the confirmatory laboratory criteria for diagnosis. Note that species identification and, if applicable, serotype designation should be reported.

**Probable:** A case that meets the supportive laboratory criteria for diagnosis OR a clinically compatible case that is epidemiologically linked to a case that meets the supportive or confirmatory laboratory criteria for diagnosis.

**Criteria to Distinguish a New Case from an Existing Case**

A case should not be counted as a new case if laboratory results were reported within 30 days of a previously reported infection in the same individual. When two or more different species of the family *Vibrionaceae* are identified in one or more specimens from the same individual, each should be reported as a separate case.

**Additional Actions:**

Request forwarding of isolates/samples to the NC State Lab of Public Health for confirmation.

CDC requests the completion of the Cholera and Other Vibrio Illness Surveillance (COVIS) Form for all Vibrio cases.

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\(^1\) Culture-independent diagnostic testing includes PCR, EIA, ELISA, and other antigen detection tests.

Effective: January 1, 2017