Yellow Fever

1997 CDC Case Definition

Clinical description

A mosquito-borne viral illness characterized by acute onset and constitutional symptoms followed by a brief remission and a recurrence of fever, hepatitis, albuminuria, and symptoms and, in some instances, renal failure, shock, and generalized hemorrhages

Laboratory criteria for diagnosis

- Fourfold or greater rise in yellow fever antibody titer in a patient who has no history of recent yellow fever vaccination and cross-reactions to other flaviviruses have been excluded or
- Demonstration of yellow fever virus, antigen, or genome in tissue, blood, or other body fluid

Case classification

Probable: a clinically compatible case with supportive serology (stable elevated antibody titer to yellow fever virus [e.g., greater than or equal to 32 by complement fixation, greater than or equal to 256 by immunofluorescence assay, greater than or equal to 320 by hemagglutination inhibition, greater than or equal to 160 by neutralization, or a positive serologic result by immunoglobulin M-capture enzyme immunoassay]. Cross-reactive serologic reactions to other flaviviruses must be excluded, and the patient must not have a history of yellow fever vaccination.)

Confirmed: a clinically compatible case that is laboratory confirmed