

# ANTHRAX

## Case Definition

### Confirmed Case:

Clinical illness with laboratory confirmation of infection:

- Isolation of *Bacillus anthracis* in a clinical specimen.

**OR**

- Demonstration of *B. anthracis* in a clinical specimen by immunofluorescence.

### Probable case:

A suspected case with detection of *B. anthracis* DNA.

### Suspect case:

Clinical illness in a person who is epidemiologically linked to a confirmed or suspected animal case or contaminated animal product.

## Clinical Evidence

### Cutaneous

Appearance of small, painless but often pruritic papules. As the papule enlarges, it becomes vesicular and, within two days, ulcerates to form a distinctive black eschar, with surrounding edema.

### Inhalation

Upper-respiratory flu-like syndrome that, after a few days, takes a fulminant course, manifested by dyspnea, cough, chills and a high-grade bacteremia.

### Gastrointestinal

Abdominal pain, fever & signs of septicaemia.

## Reporting Requirements

- Report confirmed, probable or suspect cases **immediately** to DHW Surveillance Team.
- Enter into Panorama.
- Select appropriate initial staging option in the “staging” field in Panorama
  - Update the staging field if/when new information becomes available

## Additional Forms

None.

## Data Entry

Complete data entry in Panorama.