

RUBELLA

(Non-Congenital, Congenital Rubella Syndrome OR Congenital Rubella Infection)

NON-CONGENITAL

Case Definition

Confirmed Case:

Laboratory confirmation of infection in the absence of recent immunization with rubella-containing vaccine:

- Isolation of rubella virus from an appropriate clinical specimen.
OR
- Detection of rubella virus RNA.
OR
- Seroconversion or a significant (e.g. fourfold or greater) rise in rubella IgG titre by any standard serologic assay between acute and convalescent sera.
OR
- Positive serologic test for rubella IgM antibody using a recommended assay in a person with an epidemiologic link to a laboratory-confirmed case or who has recently traveled to an area of known rubella activity.
OR
- Clinical illness in a person with an epidemiologic link to a laboratory-confirmed case.

Clinical Evidence

Characterized by fever and rash, and at least one of the following:

- Arthralgia/arthritis
- Lymphadenopathy
- Conjunctivitis.

Reporting Requirements

- Report confirmed 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

CONGENITAL RUBELLA SYNDROME OR CONGENITAL RUBELLA INFECTION

Case Definition

Confirmed Case:

Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS)

Live Birth:

Two clinically compatible manifestations (any combination from [Lists A and B](#) (see Clinical Evidence) with laboratory confirmation of infection:

- Isolation of rubella virus from an appropriate clinical specimen.
OR
- Detection of rubella virus RNA.
OR
- Positive serologic test for IgM antibody in the absence of recent immunization with rubella-containing vaccine.
OR
- Rubella IgG persisting for longer than would be expected (approximately 6 months after birth) from passive transfer of maternal antibody, or in the absence of recent immunization.

Still Birth:

Two clinically compatible manifestations with isolation of rubella virus from an appropriate clinical specimen.

Congenital Rubella Infection

Laboratory confirmation of infection but with no clinically compatible manifestations:

- Isolation of rubella virus from an appropriate clinical specimen.
OR
- Detection of rubella virus RNA.
OR
- Positive serologic test for IgM antibody in the absence of recent immunization with rubella-containing vaccine.
OR
- Rubella IgG persisting for longer than would be expected (approximately 6 months after birth) from passive transfer of maternal antibody, or in the absence of recent immunization.

Probable Case:

Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS)

In the absence of appropriate laboratory tests, a case that has at least:

- Any two compatible manifestations listed in lists A and B (see Clinical Evidence).
OR
- One manifestation in list A, plus one in list B.

NOTE: the following **cannot** be classified as a case of CRS:

- Rubella antibody titre absent in the infant.
OR
- Rubella antibody titre absent in the mother.
OR
- Rubella antibody titre declining in the infant consistent with the normal decline after birth of passively transferred maternal antibody.

Clinical Evidence

List A

- Cataracts or congenital glaucoma (either one or both count as one)
- Congenital heart defect
- Sensorineural hearing loss
- Pigmentary retinopathy

List B

- Purpura
- Hepatosplenomegaly
- Microcephaly
- Microphthalmia
- Mental retardation
- Meningoencephalitis
- Radiolucent bone disease
- Developmental or late onset conditions such as diabetes and progressive panencephalitis and any other conditions possibly caused by rubella virus

Reporting Requirements

- Report confirmed or probable 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.