

# SHELLFISH POISONING

## (Paralytic and Amnesic)

### PARALYTIC

#### Case Definition

##### Confirmed Case:

Clinical illness and:

- Detection of saxitoxin and/or gonyautoxins in epidemiologically related, ingested shellfish.
- OR**
- Detection of high levels of dinoflagellates associated with shellfish poisoning in water from which epidemiologically related shellfish were gathered.

##### Probable Case:

Clinical illness within 12 hours of consumption of shellfish, primarily bivalve shellfish (e.g. oysters, clams, mussels, whole scallops) and/or non-bivalve shellfish such as sea snails and/or the tomalley of crustaceans.

#### Clinical Evidence

Clinical illness is characterized by neurological symptoms such as paresthesia and/or paralysis involving the mouth and extremities, which may be accompanied by gastrointestinal symptoms.

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### AMNESIC

#### Case Definition

##### Confirmed Case:

Clinical illness and:

- Detection of domoic acid (toxin association with amnesic shellfish poisoning) in epidemiologically related, ingested shellfish.
- OR**
- Detection of high levels of dinoflagellates associated with shellfish poisoning in water from which epidemiologically related shellfish were gathered.

##### Probable Case:

Clinical illness within 36 hours of consumption of shellfish and/or the tomalley of crustaceans and/or fin fish eaten whole, such as sardines and anchovies.

#### Clinical Evidence

Acute onset of vomiting, diarrhea, and headache and in some cases confusion, loss of memory, disorientation and seizures.

#### 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 all data entry in Panorama.