

# Listeriosis

(*Listeria monocytogenes*)

## Clinical criteria

Any person with at least one of the following three:

- Listeriosis of newborns defined as Stillbirth  
OR  
At least one of the following five in the first month of life (where not demonstrated to have been caused by another infectious agent):
  - Granulomatosis infantiseptica
  - Meningitis or meningoencephalitis
  - Septicaemia
  - Dyspnoea
  - Lesions on skin, mucosal membranes or conjunctivae
- Listeriosis in pregnancy defined as at least one of the following two:
  - Abortion, miscarriage, stillbirth or premature birth
  - Influenza-like symptoms
- Other form of listeriosis defined as at least one of the following three (where not demonstrated to have been caused by another infectious agent):
  - Meningitis or meningoencephalitis
  - Septicaemia
  - Localised infections such as arthritis, endocarditis, and abscesses

## Laboratory criteria

At least one of the following two:

- Isolation of *Listeria monocytogenes* from a normally sterile site
- Isolation of *Listeria monocytogenes* from a normally non-sterile site in a foetus, stillborn, newborn or the mother at or within 24 hours of birth

## Epidemiological criteria

At least one of the following two:

- Exposure to a common source
- Human to human transmission (vertical transmission)

## Additional information:

Incubation period 3-70 days, most often 21 days

**Case classification****A. Possible case**

NA

**B. Probable case**

Any person meeting the clinical criteria and with an epidemiological link

**C. Confirmed case**

Any person meeting the laboratory criteria

OR

Any mother with a laboratory confirmed listeriosis infection in her foetus, stillborn or newborn