

Cholera Investigation Checklist for Local Health Departments

Local health department staff should follow these steps, not necessarily always in order, when investigating reports of cholera. For more detailed information refer to the Cholera Disease Chapter. Cholera is a Priority Level 3 disease and critical details should be entered into the Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS) within 5 days.

- Review laboratory details to confirm the test result. If the case has not been submitted via CDRSS, create a case.
- Follow up with the laboratory to ensure a specimen has been submitted to the state laboratory (NJ PHEL) for further testing as per the [NJ Administrative Code](#).
- Assess if the case patient falls into high-risk categories (people with underlying conditions such as liver disease, cancer, diabetes, HIV, etc.).
- Interview the case-patient (parent/guardian if case-patient is a minor) via phone using the “Cholera and Other Vibrio Illness Surveillance (COVIS) Case Report Form”. Do not fax the form to the physician or mail to the home of the case-patient for completion.
- Provide education to the case-patient; additional information can be found on the NJDOH and CDC disease pages.
- Enter critical details (demographics, signs/symptoms, clinical status, additional laboratory information, and industry/occupation) into the CDRSS case.
- Enter relevant exposures (travel, seafood consumption, contact with coastal [salt/brackish] water) into the *Sources of Infection and Risk Factors* section within the CDRSS case.
- Notify the appropriate local health department and document in CDRSS if a food establishment, restaurant, etc. from another jurisdiction is identified as a possible source of exposure.
- Inform the Foodborne and Waterborne Disease Unit at cds.fwd.epi@doh.nj.gov if an outbreak is suspected.
- Enter any additional symptomatic contacts identified through the interview into the *Contact Tracing* section within CDRSS and follow case investigation as appropriate.
- Submit the completed “Cholera and Other Vibrio Illness Surveillance (COVIS) Case Report Form” via email to the Foodborne and Waterborne Disease Unit at cds.fwd.epi@doh.nj.gov or fax to 609-826-5972 or 609-292-5811.
- Document dates/times of at least three attempts made to reach the case-patient into the *Sources of Infection and Risk Factors* section within CDRSS if they remain unreachable.
- Determine *Case Status* based on [NNDSS case definitions](#) and mark *Report Status* as “LHD CLOSED” in CDRSS.

PATIENT IDENTIFIERS (Please tear off this page before sending the COVIS case report form to CDC. Patient identifiers should not be transmitted to CDC)

Patient's Name:

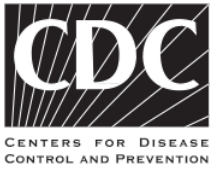
Patient's Address:

Telephone:

Physician's Name:

Telephone:

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CHOLERA AND OTHER VIBRIO ILLNESS SURVEILLANCE REPORT

OMB 0920-0728

REPORTING HEALTH DEPARTMENT			SEND COMPLETED REPORT TO STATE INFECTION CONTROL
State	City	County/Parish	State will forward to: c o v i s r e s p o n s e @ c d c . g o v E - f a x : 4 0 4 - 2 3 5 - 1 7 3 5 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Enteric Diseases Epidemiology Branch 1600 Clifton Road, MS C09 Atlanta, GA 30333
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			

1. PATIENT CASE INFORMATION

1. First 3 letters of patient's last name: _____		2. Sex: M F Unk	
3. Date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY): _____		4. Age: _____ <small>YEARS MONTHS</small>	3. NNDSS case ID
		4. Case state ID (required)	
5. Race:		6. Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latino	
American Indian/Alaska Native White Black or African American Other Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Unknown/not provided Islander Asian		Not Hispanic/Latino Unknown/not provided	
		7. Occupation: _____	

2. LABORATORY INFORMATION

Use the *Vibrio* Species key to indicate which species were positively identified by culture or CIDT result as applicable.

<u><i>Vibrio</i> Species Key:</u>	<i>V. cincinnatiensis</i> —CIN	<i>Grimontia hollisae</i> —HOL	<i>Vibrio</i> —species not identified—NID
<i>V. alginolyticus</i> —ALG	<i>Photobacterium damsela</i> subsp. <i>Damsela</i> —DAM	<i>V. metschnikovii</i> —MET	Other—OTH (Specify below)
<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH1	<i>V. fluvialis</i> —FLU	<i>V. mimicus</i> —MIM	Multiple species—MUL (Specify below)
<i>V. cholerae</i> O139—CH3	<i>V. furnissii</i> —FUR	<i>V. parahaemolyticus</i> —PAR	Epidemiologically linked to a laboratory detected case (no lab results)
<i>V. cholerae</i> non-O1, non-O139—CHN		<i>V. vulnificus</i> —VUL	

Laboratory results (If more than one specimen is tested, complete one row per specimen. If more than two specimens were tested, please check here _____ and attach additional sheet. CIDT indicates a culture-independent diagnostic test.)

1. <u>Specimen one:</u> Date collected: _____ (MM/DD/YY) Received at public health laboratory? Yes No Unk If yes, State lab ID: _____			
Specimen source:	Culture, result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done	CIDT, result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done	If positive, species identified: _____
Specimen Site:	If positive, species identified: _____	Name/type of diagnostic test used: _____	
If Other, specify: _____	If species identified as multiple or other, specify: _____	If species identified as multiple or other, please specify: _____	

2. <u>Specimen two:</u> Date collected: _____ (MM/DD/YY) Received at public health laboratory? Yes No Unk If yes, State lab ID: _____			
Specimen Source:	Culture, result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done	CIDT, result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done	If positive, species identified: _____
Specimen Site:	If positive, species identified: _____	Name/type of diagnostic test used: _____	
If Other, specify: _____	If species identified as multiple or other, specify: _____	If species identified as multiple or other, please specify: _____	

3. If other non-*Vibrio* organism(s) isolated from same specimen, list: _____

Complete only if isolate is *Vibrio cholerae* O1 or O139:

4. <u>Serotype:</u> Inaba Ogawa	5. <u>BioType:</u> El Tor Classical Not done Unk
Hikojima Not done Unk	6. <u>Toxigenic:</u> Yes No Not done Unk

3. CLINICAL INFORMATION

1. Date illness began (MM/DD/YY): _____	4a. Admitted to a hospital overnight for this illness? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
2. Duration of illness (Days): _____	4b. If yes, admission date (MM/DD/YY): _____
3a. Did patient die? Yes No Unknown 3b. If yes, date (MM/DD/YY): _____	4c. Discharge date (MM/DD/YY): _____
5. Did patient take an antibiotic as treatment for this illness? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	

If yes, name(s) of antibiotic(s):	Date began antibiotic (MM/DD/YY):	Date ended antibiotic: (MM/DD/YY):
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

Signs and symptoms:	Yes	No	Unk	Medical history (optional for probable cases):	Yes	No	Unk
Vomiting				Alcoholism			
Diarrhea				Diabetes			
Visible blood in stools				Gastric surgery			
Abdominal cramps				Heart disease (If yes, Heart failure? Y N U)			
Fever (>100.4F or 38 C)				Hematologic disease			
Muscle pain				Immunosuppressive condition/immunodeficiency			
Septic shock				Immunosuppressive therapy			
Cellulitis (Site _____)				Liver disease			
Bullae (Site _____)				Cancer			
Sequelae (e.g. amputation, skin graft) (Type: _____)				Kidney disease			
Other (ear pain, discharge, rash, etc.): _____				Took antacids or ulcer medication in past 30 days (Type/Frequency: _____)			
Additional signs and symptoms comments:				Peptic ulcer			
				Other: _____			
				If yes to any of the above conditions, specify type:			

4. EPIDEMIOLOGY SECTION

1. Was this case part of an outbreak? Yes No Unk		
2. If yes, please describe (include NORS ID if available): _____		
3. PulseNet cluster code (if available): _____		
4. Did patient travel outside their home state in the 7 days before illness onset? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unk		
5. Did patient travel to another country in the 7 days before illness onset? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unk		
6. If yes, list destinations and dates*:	Date arrived (MM/DD/YY)	Date left (MM/DD/YY)
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

*Please list any additional travel destinations or information in the comments section on page 5.

Cholera exposure (Only complete if laboratory result includes toxigenic *V. cholerae* O1 or O139.)

1. Was patient exposed to a person with cholera? Yes No Unknown

2. If patient traveled outside of U.S., what was the reason for travel?

To visit relatives/friends Tourism Medical/Disaster Relief Other: _____
 Business Military Unknown

3. Has the patient ever received a cholera vaccine? Yes No Unknown

4. If yes, most recent vaccination date (MM/DD/YYYY) : _____

Seafood consumption

1. Only indicate consumption during the 7 days before illness began.

<u>Type of Seafood</u>	Eaten?			Multiple dates?	Last date consumed (MM/ DD/ YY)	<u>Type of Seafood</u>	Eaten?			Multiple dates?	Last date consumed (MM/ DD/ YY)
	Y	N	U				Y	N	U		
Clams					_____	Shrimp					_____
Mussels					_____	Crawfish					_____
Oysters					_____	Lobster					_____
Scallops					_____	Crabs					_____
Other shellfish					_____	Fish					_____

Further description of seafood: _____

2. Did any dining partners consume the same seafood? Yes No Unk 3. If yes, did any become ill? Yes No Unk

Water exposure

In the 7 days before illness began, was patient's skin exposed to any of the following?

1a. A body of water (ocean, lake, etc.): Yes No Unknown 1b. If yes, specify name of body of water: _____

1c. If exposed to water, indicate type: Salt Fresh Brackish Other, specify: _____ Unknown

2. Drippings from raw or live seafood, including handling/cleaning: Yes No Unknown

3. Marine life, including stings/bites : Yes No Unknown

4. Date of most recent exposure: (MM/DD/YY): _____

5. If yes to any of the above exposures, was this an occupational exposure? Yes No Unknown

6a. If patient's skin was exposed to any of the above, did patient sustain a wound or have a pre-existing wound?

Yes, sustained a wound Yes, had pre-existing wound Yes, uncertain if old/new No Unknown

6b. If Yes, describe how wound occurred and site on body: _____

Additional comments: _____ Lost to follow-up

Person completing section 1-4: _____ Date completed (MM/DD/YY): _____

Title/Agency: _____ Tel: _____

5. SEAFOOD INVESTIGATION (Please complete one copy of this page for each type of seafood ingested and investigated, and identify investigation page number below. Completion of this page is optional for probable cases.)

Seafood Investigation page ____ of ____

Product information

1. Type of seafood being investigated: _____ 2. Date consumed (MM/DD/YY): _____

3. Amount consumed (e.g., 6 oysters, 1 filet, 5oz, etc.): _____

4. How prepared: Fully cooked Undercooked Raw Unknown

5. Additional relevant information on product preparation (e.g., specific variety of seafood consumed and plating): _____

6. Was this fish or shellfish harvested by the patient or a friend of the patient? Yes No Unknown

(If yes, skip to source information questions. If no, complete entire page as possible.)

Commercial vendor Information (only complete if product consumed at a commercial establishment)

1. Name of restaurant, oyster bar, or food store: _____

Address: _____ Tel: _____

City/State: _____

2. Type of establishment: Oyster bar or restaurant Seafood market Unknown
 Truck or roadside vendor Other (specify): _____
 Food store _____

3. Date restaurant or food outlet received seafood (MM/DD/YY): _____

4. Was the seafood imported from another country? Yes No Unknown

If yes, name of country: _____

5. Was a restaurant or outlet environmental assessment conducted? Yes No Unknown6. Was there evidence of improper handling or storage? Yes No Unknown

If yes (check all that apply): Holding temperature violation Cross-contamination Co-mingling of live and dead shellfish

 Improper storage Other: _____

7. If oysters, clams, or mussels were eaten, how were they received by the retail outlet?

 Live shellstock Processed animal with shell attached Shucked meat Unknown Other (specify): _____**Source information**1. Were seafood tags, invoices, or labels available? Yes No Unknown (If yes, please attach to form)

2. List shippers and associated certification numbers if on tags:

3. If harvest areas are known: Harvest area classification (if known):

Area 1:	Date :	Approved Conditionally approved Restricted Prohibited	Product harvested:	Harvest State:
_____	_____ (MM/DD/YY)		_____	_____
Area 2:	Date :	Approved Conditionally approved Restricted Prohibited	Product harvested:	Harvest State:
_____	_____ (MM/DD/YY)		_____	_____

 Check if additional harvest area page is attached

Person completing section 5:

Date completed (MM/DD/YY):

Title/Agency:

Tel:

Additional harvest area page				
Harvest areas:		Harvest area classification (if known):		
Area 3: _____	Date : _____ (MM/DD/YY)	Approved Conditionally restricted Restricted	Conditionally approved Restricted Prohibited	Product harvested: _____ Harvest State: _____
Area 4: _____	Date : _____ (MM/DD/YY)	Approved Conditionally restricted Restricted	Conditionally approved Restricted Prohibited	Product harvested: _____ Harvest State: _____
Area 5: _____	Date : _____ (MM/DD/YY)	Approved Conditionally restricted Restricted	Conditionally approved Restricted Prohibited	Product harvested: _____ Harvest State: _____
Area 6: _____	Date : _____ (MM/DD/YY)	Approved Conditionally restricted Restricted	Conditionally approved Restricted Prohibited	Product harvested: _____ Harvest State: _____
Area 7: _____	Date : _____ (MM/DD/YY)	Approved Conditionally restricted Restricted	Conditionally approved Restricted Prohibited	Product harvested: _____ Harvest State: _____
Area 8: _____	Date : _____ (MM/DD/YY)	Approved Conditionally restricted Restricted	Conditionally approved Restricted Prohibited	Product harvested: _____ Harvest State: _____
Area 9: _____	Date : _____ (MM/DD/YY)	Approved Conditionally restricted Restricted	Conditionally approved Restricted Prohibited	Product harvested: _____ Harvest State: _____
Area 10: _____	Date : _____ (MM/DD/YY)	Approved Conditionally restricted Restricted	Conditionally approved Restricted Prohibited	Product harvested: _____ Harvest State: _____

Additional laboratory results (If more than one specimen is tested, complete one row per specimen)		
*CIDT indicates Culture-Independent Diagnostic Test		
3. <u>Specimen three</u> : Date collected: _____ (MM/DD/YY) Received at public health laboratory? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unk If yes, State lab ID: _____		
Specimen source: _____	<u>Culture</u> , result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done If positive, species identified: _____ If species identified as multiple or other, specify: _____	<u>CIDT</u> , result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done If positive, species identified: _____ Name/type of diagnostic test used: _____ If species identified as multiple or other, please specify: _____
Specimen Site: _____		
If Other, specify: _____		
4. <u>Specimen four</u> : Date collected: _____ (MM/DD/YY) Received at public health laboratory? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unk If yes, State lab ID: _____		
Specimen source: _____	<u>Culture</u> , result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done If positive, species identified: _____ If species identified as multiple or other, specify: _____	<u>CIDT</u> , result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done If positive, species identified: _____ Name/type of diagnostic test used: _____ If species identified as multiple or other, please specify: _____
Specimen Site: _____		
If Other, specify: _____		