Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Position Statement Template: Standardized Surveillance for Diseases or Conditions

Please note: Only active members defined as persons engaged in the practice of epidemiology at the state, local, territorial or tribal public health level, may submit a CSTE position statement. An associate member can be a co-author of a position statement but not the submitting author.

Deadline for submission to 2021 Business Meeting:
Ordinary Process- March 18, 2021
Expedited Handling- May 27, 2021
Presidential Review- Between May 27 and June 15, 2021; Directly contact Sherri Davidson, CSTE President

Before submission, authors are expected to review author responsibilities; involve all appropriate members and partners during development; and follow template instructions. Following submission, authors are expected to solicit and address membership concerns/edits before the Annual Conference; participate on position statement webinars; lead discussion and edits at the Annual Conference, including roundtable discussions, Steering Committee Position Statement Voting Sessions, and the Thursday morning Business Meeting when final voting on position statements occurs; and collaborate with the National Office during final technical review post-approval.

For Ordinary Process and Expedited Handling, submit your electronic position statement to: Email: positionstatements@cste.org

Authors considering adding a condition to the Nationally Notifiable Conditions list are expected to review CSTE position statements 07-EC-02 “CSTE official list of Nationally Notifiable Conditions” (www.cste.org/resource/resmgr/PS/07-EC-02.pdf) and 10-SI-02 “Modification of Criteria for Inclusion of Conditions on CSTE Nationally Notifiable Conditions List” (www.cste.org/resource/resmgr/PS/10-SI-02.pdf).

Authors seeking to update an existing standardized surveillance case definition should specifically reference previous CSTE position statements for the condition and describe the proposed updates in both Section I (Statement of the Problem) and Section II (Background and Justification). However, all sections of this template must be completed in their entirety for both updated and new case definitions. Final position statements “stand alone” and contain all current information required to implement surveillance for the disease or condition.

Additional information:
- To recommend a disease/condition be added to the Nationally Notifiable Condition (NNC) List or to update a disease/condition already on the NNC List, authors MUST complete the NNC Recommendation Statement.
- Authors MUST complete the Technical Supplement to accompany the position statement. See Technical Supplement for more information.
- Please note word counts in sections where required.
- Authors must be familiar with the position statement overview and submitting author responsibilities.
- Position statement timeline

At least one active member author of a position statement must be present at all Annual Conference voting sessions (in which the position statement is being voted on) including the Steering Committee meetings (6/15/2021 or 6/16/2021) and Thursday Business Meeting (6/17/2021).

For further information, contact the CSTE National Office at (770) 458-3811. Consideration of position statements received after the deadline is discretionary, cannot be assured, and must involve a time-sensitive or emerging public health issue. Non-typed or incomplete position statements will be returned.

All “permanent” content that should be retained within the position statement is in BLACK font. Do not delete or modify any black font text. Instructions to the author are in BLUE font. All blue font text must be deleted prior to final submission of the position statement in addition to the instructions on the first page. This will assure that position statements are uniform in format and content.
Submission Date:

Committee: Choose a Committee. (Drop down field provided – click Choose a Committee, then the down arrow)

Proposed Title: Title should be explicit and include the disease/condition and if the position statement recommends standardized surveillance and/or national notification for disease/condition.

☐ Check this box if this position statement is an update to an existing standardized surveillance case definition and include the most recent position statement number here: ________.

Synopsis: Synopsis should be no more than 1-2 sentences and must highlight the topic and purpose of position statement.

Examples:
• This position statement creates a standardized case definition for X condition.
• This position statement updates the case definition for X condition (previous position statement ##-XX-##) through the addition of new clinical/laboratory/epidemiologic criteria.
• This position statement updates the case definition for X condition and recommends X condition be made nationally notifiable.

Word Count: /40

I. Statement of the Problem

Word limit: 300 words. This section is an explanation of the key issue or problem to be addressed by the actions proposed in the synopsis. If proposing to update a previous position statement, include key revisions. Supplemental information may be included in appendices if needed.

Word Count: /300

II. Background and Justification

Word limit: 500 words. This section is an explanation of the key issue or problem context, importance, why it needs to be addressed, and how the actions proposed in the synopsis will resolve the issue or problem. Supplemental information may be included in appendices, if needed.

Word Count: /500

III. Statement of the desired action(s) to be taken

Authors complete the desired action(s) to be taken below. If adding supplementary desired action(s) to be taken, each action should be explicitly measurable and as specific and objective as possible to help the CSTE National Office track position statement implementation. Please provide a separate bullet for each supplementary desired action.

Note: If disease/condition should be added to the Nationally Notifiable Conditions List, is already on the NNC List and should be updated, or should be removed from the NNC List, a Nationally Notifiable Conditions Recommendation Statement must be completed.

CSTE recommends the following actions:

1. Implement a standardized surveillance case definition for [disease/condition].
   A. Utilize standard sources (e.g. reporting*) for case ascertainment for [disease/condition]. Surveillance for [disease/condition] should use the recommended sources of data to the extent of coverage presented in Section V.
   B. Utilize standardized criteria for case ascertainment for [disease/condition] presented in Section VI and Table VI in Technical Supplement.
   C. Utilize standardized criteria for case classification for [disease/condition] presented in Section VII and Table VII in Technical Supplement.
2. **[Optional]** Additional actions are included in the NNC Recommendation Statement.  
   Note: if NNC Recommendation Statement is approved, the National Office will move all desired actions to Section III.  
   If necessary, describe the desired action(s) to be taken or add supplementary desired action(s) to be taken. Please be as specific, measurable, and objective as possible.

*Reporting: process of a healthcare provider or other entity submitting a report (case information) of a condition under public health surveillance TO local, state, or territorial public health. Note: notification is addressed in a Nationally Notifiable Conditions Recommendation Statement and is the process of a local, state, or territorial public health authority submitting a report (case information) of a condition on the Nationally Notifiable Conditions List TO CDC.

**IV. Goals of Surveillance**  
Word limit: 100 words. This section is an explanation of the goals of surveillance and should be specific to the disease/condition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of data for case ascertainment</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population-wide</td>
<td>Sentinel sites</td>
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<td>Clinician reporting</td>
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<td>Laboratory reporting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reporting by other entities (e.g., hospitals, veterinarians, pharmacies, poison centers), specify:</td>
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<td>Death certificates</td>
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<td>Hospital discharge or outpatient records</td>
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<td>Data from electronic medical records</td>
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<td>Telephone survey</td>
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<td>School-based survey</td>
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<td>Other, specify:</td>
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</table>

**VI. Criteria for case ascertainment**  
Complete sub-sections A and B below. This section is a description of what should be reported to public health agencies. There may be some overlap in criteria between this section and Section VII for case classification, but this section must include all criteria that public health needs to determine initial public health action. These are criteria that serve as “triggers” that public health would use to evaluate or triage information about a potential case (i.e., suspicion of illness, infection, or potential exposure).
If the method for surveillance described in the previous section includes case ascertainment by reports of individual cases from traditional partners (e.g., clinicians, labs, hospitals) to governmental public health agencies, then describe the reporting criteria which identify or ‘trigger’ the case reports to be sent or provided to public health. If case-finding is based on secondary analysis of administrative or clinical data (such as vital records, hospital or EMS databases), describe the method used to identify cases separately for each data source. This section should provide suggested criteria to be applied by health care providers (i.e., based on clinical judgment and clinical diagnosis) and laboratory staff.

A. Narrative: A description of suggested criteria for case ascertainment of a specific condition.

In this subsection, when case-finding is based on reporting, use narrative text to allow the criteria for reporting to be clearly understood by health care providers and laboratory or other institutional staff who bear responsibility for submitting case reports. As appropriate, describe in three separate labeled parts:

- Clinical criteria
- Laboratory criteria
- Criteria for epidemiologic linkage

A case report could be triggered by a single criterion, a combination of criteria in the same category (clinical, laboratory, or epidemiologic linkage), or a combination of criteria from different categories. The suggested criteria for reporting should include specification of whether reporting is to be all-inclusive, or limited to reporting only when the condition is work-related; likewise, include specification of whether condition reporting is to be on-going and routine, or limited to reporting only when there are multiple cases indicative of an outbreak. If the method for surveillance includes case identification by reports of individual cases to public health agencies, then specify the suggested reporting timeframe: immediate reporting of cases versus standard reporting of cases; specify if a subset of cases of the condition are handled differently (see CSTE List of Nationally Notifiable Conditions for examples of immediate and standard categories in disease/condition subtypes https://c-ymcdn.com/sites/csteosite-ym.com/resource/resmgr/CSTENotifiableConditionListA.pdf).

When case-finding is based on secondary analysis of administrative or clinical data, use narrative text to allow the criteria for case-finding to be clearly understood by the data analysts. Examples are: “A person whose healthcare record contains a diagnosis of [[condition]]” or “A person whose death certificate lists [[condition]] as a cause of death or a significant condition contributing to death.”

A1. Clinical Criteria for Reporting

A2. Laboratory Criteria for Reporting

A3. Epidemiologic Linkage Criteria for Reporting


A5. [Optional] Other Criteria for Reporting
B. Disease-specific data elements to be included in the initial report

Disease-specific data elements are expected to be included in all reports of individual cases to governmental public health agencies for all reportable conditions, regardless of whether the report is submitted by telephone, by use of a standard paper-based form, or electronically. Disease-specific data elements are in addition to the common data elements that are to be reported for all individual case reports (see CSTE position statement 09-SI-01 “Common Core Data Elements for Case Reporting and Laboratory Result Reporting” http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.cste.org/resource/resmgr/PS/09-SI-01.pdf). Public health authorities do not expect that an initial report will contain all the information necessary for case investigation and case classification. For many conditions, the process of case investigation requires obtaining further case information from a health care provider or medical record or directly from the affected person. Disease-specific data elements that are included when case information is sent from public health agencies to CDC (“notification”) generally differ from that obtained in the initial report. The focus here is on the disease-specific data elements to be included in the initial report. In this subsection, list these disease-specific data elements. (Do not list the common data elements, which are expected to be included for all conditions in all reports of individual cases.)

Where case finding is based on secondary analysis of administrative data, include list of data elements expected to be extracted from source data repositories for each record.

VII. Case Definition for Case Classification

A. Narrative: Description of criteria to determine how a case should be classified.

Section VII.A. is intended to define and classify cases after reports of potential cases have been submitted to governmental public health agencies by providers (see Section VI for Case Ascertainment) Under each separately labeled section below, describe the criteria to be used in the case definition. Stratify as appropriate, providing criteria for: complete clinical presentation vs. a “clinically compatible” case; laboratory results categorized by the appropriate case classification (e.g., Category A laboratory evidence are part of the confirmed case classification); epidemiologic linkage to a laboratory-confirmed case vs. epidemiologic linkage to any other case, etc. Classifications should be discrete and independent of each other. If any type of criteria is not applicable, state “N/A” explicitly.

A1. Clinical Criteria
   E.g., clinical presentation/clinical compatibility; symptoms, etc. (be as explicit as possible)

A2. Laboratory Criteria
   E.g., Laboratory diagnostics (be as explicit as possible), test types and methodologies, specimen types and sites, performing laboratory (private, state, CDC), etc.

   If any category of laboratory evidence is not applicable, state “N/A” explicitly.

   **Category A laboratory evidence:**
   Specified laboratory results that are consistent with the diagnosis and are part of the confirmed case classification. These are specified in the laboratory criteria for case classification section of each case definition.

   **Category B laboratory evidence:**
   Specified laboratory results that are consistent with the diagnosis and are part of the probable case classification. These are specified in the laboratory criteria for case classification section of each case definition.

   **Category C laboratory evidence:**
   Specified laboratory results that are consistent with the diagnosis and are part of the suspect case classification. These are specified in the laboratory criteria for case classification section of each case definition.

   **Note:** The categorical labels used here to stratify laboratory evidence are intended to support the standardization of case classifications for public health surveillance. The categorical labels should not be used to interpret the utility or validity of any laboratory test methodology.

A3. Epidemiologic Linkage
   E.g., Exposure or risk information (person, place, time), etc.
A4. Case Classifications

Case classifications should reference criteria listed above and should not introduce new criteria. If any type of case classification is not applicable, state “N/A” explicitly.

Confirmed:

Probable:

Suspect:

B. Criteria to distinguish a new case of this disease or condition from reports or notifications which should not be enumerated as a new case for surveillance

Consider defining and developing criteria (such as time between individual reports) to distinguish a new case from duplicates, recurrence, persistent state, carrier state, acute versus chronic state, recrudescence, and relapse. (See the Appendix for examples of the types of information which could be used for criteria.)

Optional criteria to include only if needed:

- Exposure
- Endemicity
- Comments

VIII. Period of Surveillance

Indicate whether surveillance is expected to be on-going or limited to a specific time period.

IX. Data sharing/release and print criteria

This section should be completed for all diseases and conditions. Include any guidance to governmental public health departments on which case classifications are recommended for release outside the public health agency as a part of case counts. Guidance 1-3 are standard for the position statement template. Please include additional guidance beneath standard language.

For data re-release and CDC publication criteria for nationally notifiable conditions, please use the NNC Recommendation Statement. Note: if NNC Recommendation Statement is approved, the National Office will move all NNC data sharing/release and print criteria to Section IX.

CSTE recommends the following case statuses* be included in the ‘case’ count released outside of the public health agency: (Check all that apply)

☐ Confirmed
☐ Probable
☐ Suspect
☐ Unknown

* Which case statuses are included in the case counts constitute the “print criteria.”

Jurisdictions (e.g., States and Territories) conducting surveillance under this case definition can voluntarily submit de-identified case information to CDC, if requested and in a mutually agreed upon format.

Production of national data summaries and national data re-release for non-NNCs:

- Prior to release of national data summaries CDC should follow the CDC/ATSDR Policy on Releasing & Sharing Data, issued on April 16, 2003 and referenced in 11-SI-01 and custodians of such data should consult the CDC-CSTE
Intergovernmental Data Release Guidelines Working Group report (www.cste2.org/webpdfs/drgwreport.pdf) which contains data release guidelines and procedures for CDC programs re-releasing state, local, or territorial-provided data.

- CDC programs have a responsibility, in collaboration with states, localities, and territories, to ensure that CDC program-specific data re-release procedures meet the needs of those responsible for protecting data in the states and territories.

Additional guidance, if needed:

X. Revision History
This section does not need to be completed if disease/condition does not have previous standardized surveillance position statement.

If you are updating a previously passed position statement (e.g., if you are updating a case definition passed prior to this current position statement cycle), please provide a short summary in the table below of the substantive changes between the most recently passed position statement and your proposed position statement. Do not list changes to the ‘Statement of the Problem’ or ‘Background and Justification’ sections. Revisions listed here should highlight the major changes to the case definition itself. For further information on what to include in this section, contact the CSTE National Office.

E.g., If recommending the addition of a condition to the Nationally Notifiable Condition List via NNC Recommendation Statement, specify that here.

If a certain lab test is now routinely used to identify cases, specify that here.

Any updates to Table V, Table VI, and/or Table VII in the Technical Supplement should be specified here.

List the position statement ID of the statement you are updating in ‘Position Statement ID’ column. Specify the section of the statement (e.g., Statement of the Desired action(s) to be taken, Table VI-B, etc.) you are updating in ‘Section of Document’ column. Briefly describe the revision and why you are revising that section of the document in ‘Revision Description’ column. Example table is shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position Statement ID</th>
<th>Section of Document</th>
<th>Revision Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-ID-01</td>
<td>Statement of the desired action(s) to be taken</td>
<td>ADDED XYZ condition to the NNC list</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-ID-01</td>
<td>Table VII-B - Confirmed</td>
<td>EDITED lab evidence to include XYZ test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-ID-01</td>
<td>Table VII-B - Confirmed</td>
<td>DELETED ABC lab test (not in use)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

XI. References
Where appropriate, include references to prior CSTE position statements or other resources.

XII. Coordination

Subject Matter Expert (SME) Consultants:
List names and contact information for any SME consultants (e.g., CDC staff) who advised authors in the development of this position statement. For all standardized surveillance position statements, a primary SME from the CDC must be identified. The CSTE National Office can help authors identify appropriate CDC SMEs, if needed. If a SME consultant is listed upon position statement submission to the CSTE National Office, that SME consultant will be allowed entry to voting sessions at the CSTE Annual Conference.

PRIMARY SME
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SME Full Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) SME Full Name</td>
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<td>(2) SME Full Name</td>
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### ADDITIONAL SME(s)

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<th>SME Full Name</th>
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**Agencies for Response**

List only one name per agency, preferably an individual in a senior management position; complete contact information must be provided for acceptance to review. For additional Agencies for Response, please provide a separate attachment with complete contact information.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Contact Full Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Address Line 1</th>
<th>Address Line 2</th>
<th>City, State and Zip</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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**Agencies for Information:**
Complete contact information must be provided for acceptance to review. For additional Agencies for Information, please provide a separate attachment with complete contact information.

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<th>Contact Full Name</th>
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Agency

Contact Full Name

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Address Line 2

City, State and Zip

Telephone Number

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(3)

Agency

Contact Full Name

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Address Line 1

Address Line 2

City, State and Zip

Telephone Number

Email Address
XIII. Author Information

Submitting Author: (Must be an Active CSTE Member and complete contact information provided for acceptance to review.)

(1)

Contact Full Name

Title

Agency

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

City, State and Zip

Telephone Number

Email Address

Presenting Author: (Must be an Active CSTE Member in attendance at the upcoming CSTE Annual Conference.)

☐ Check this box if presenting author is the same as submitting author.

(1)

Contact Full Name

Title

Agency

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

City, State and Zip

Telephone Number

Email Address
Co-Author(s): (Complete contact information must be provided for acceptance to review. *For additional Authors, please provide a separate attachment with complete contact information.*)

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[Optional] Appendix. Examples and further information about recommended standard data sources for case ascertainment as referenced in Section V and Table V.

Use this suggested format:

- Data Source
  1. Summary
  2. Description
  3. Strengths
  4. Limitations and Caveats

- Data Source
  1. Summary
  2. Description
  3. Strengths
  4. Limitations and Caveats
[Optional] Appendix. Examples of types of information that could be used for criteria to distinguish a new case from duplicates, recurrence, persistent state, carrier state, acute versus chronic state, recrudescence, and relapse.

(a) time periods between repeated positive lab results for the same pathogen or environmental hazard – Note: It may be useful to define a hierarchy of dates to consider for the starting point for the repeated measures, since some dates may not be available to surveillance staff;
(b) sites of infection;
(c) exposure and travel history as it relates to dates of illness onset, diagnosis, lab tests, or hospitalization; and
(d) whether the condition was successfully treated.

CSTE National Office Staff can provide examples of criteria used by health jurisdictions and CDC programs.
This recommendation statement must accompany a Standardized Surveillance for Diseases or Conditions Position Statement to recommend adding a disease/condition to the Nationally Notifiable Conditions List or updating a disease/condition on the NNC List. Please complete all fields below. The accompanying position statement will be reviewed and voted upon by the appropriate Steering Committee and Council, and if approved, the Steering Committee followed by the Council will consider and vote on this NNC Recommendation Statement.

NOTE: If this recommendation statement is not needed, please delete from position statement for submission.

Position Statement Title: [Title should exactly match position statement title.]

Disease/Condition: [Name of disease/condition]

Please mark the most appropriate checkbox(es) below:

☐ 1. This statement recommends the addition of a disease/condition to the Nationally Notifiable Conditions (NNC) List.
   ☐ 2. This statement updates a disease/condition already on the NNC List.
      ☐ a. A change to the CDC notification timeframe is recommended.
      ☐ b. New subtypes or additional disease/condition categories are added to the accompanying position statement.
      ☐ c. A change in data sharing/release and print criteria was made.
   ☐ 3. This statement removes a disease/condition from the NNC List.

NNC Recommended Actions to be Taken

By submitting this NNC recommendation, this statement recommends the following:

1. Utilize standardized criteria for case ascertainment and classification (based on Sections VI and VII and Technical Supplement of accompanying position statement) for [disease/condition] and [add] [disease/condition] to the Nationally Notifiable Condition List [Select timeframe below for submission of CDC notification. Specify subsets of cases if applicable (e.g., suspected intentional release, clusters, or outbreaks).]
   ☐ Immediately notifiable, extremely urgent (within 4 hours)
   ☐ Immediately notifiable, urgent (within 24 hours)
   ☐ Routinely notifiable
   ☐ No longer notifiable

2. CSTE recommends that all States and Territories enact laws (statute or rule/regulation as appropriate) to make this disease or condition reportable in their jurisdiction. Jurisdictions (e.g. States and Territories) conducting surveillance (according to these methods) should submit case notifications* to CDC.

3. Expectations for Message Mapping Guide (MMG) development for a newly notifiable condition: the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) is transitioning to HL7-based messages for case notifications; the specifications for these messages are presented in MMGs. When CSTE recommends a new condition be made nationally notifiable, CDC must obtain Office of Management and Budget Paperwork Reduction Act (OMB PRA) approval prior to accepting case notifications for the new condition. Under anticipated timelines, notification using the Generic V2 MMG would support transmission of the basic demographic and epidemiologic information common to all cases and could begin with the new MMWR year following the CSTE annual conference. Input from CDC programs and

*Notification: process of a local or state public health authority submitting a report (case information) of a condition on the Nationally Notifiable Conditions List to CDC.
CSTE would prioritize development of a disease-specific MMG for the new condition among other conditions waiting for MMGs.

4. CDC should publish data on [disease/condition] as appropriate (see Section IX of corresponding position statement).

5. CSTE recommends that all jurisdictions (e.g. States, Localities, or Territories) with legal authority to conduct public health surveillance follow the recommended methods outlined in this recommendation and in the accompanying standardized surveillance position statement.

**NNC data sharing/release and print criteria**

Complete the below selection of case statuses that should be included in CDC Print Criteria. As appropriate, further describe:

- Expectations for sharing of case data (dataflow/notification from state/territorial health agency to CDC) and limitations on data sharing (e.g., states and territories will send CDC data for selected cases based on case classification; states and territories will send core/generic data or supplemental/extended data)
- Limitations on data re-release by CDC (e.g., only fully de-identified case data will be released by CDC to the general public, other releases by CDC require signed data sharing agreements using a format pre-approved by the state/territorial health agency) [refer to CDC-CSTE Intergovernmental Data Release Guidelines Working Group (DRGWG) Report: CDC-ATSDR Data Release Guidelines and Procedures for Re-release of State-Provided Data (available at http://www.cste2.org/webpdfs/drgwgreport.pdf) as necessary]

Restrictions on the printing of counts of case data (e.g., CDC publication criteria will exclude selected cases from final printed counts based on case classification; provisional case report data will not be used by CDC until verification procedures are complete).

CSTE recommends the following case statuses be included in the CDC Print Criteria: (Check all that apply)

- [ ] Confirmed
- [ ] Probable
- [ ] Suspect
- [ ] Unknown

*Notification: process of a local or state public health authority submitting a report (case information) of a condition on the Nationally Notifiable Conditions List to CDC.

Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
NNC Recommendation Statement: Standardized Surveillance for Diseases or Conditions, Revised 2021
Table VI. Table of criteria to determine whether a case should be reported to public health authorities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Reporting Disease or Condition Subtype</th>
<th>Reporting Disease or Condition Subtype (if multiple subtypes)</th>
<th>Reporting Disease or Condition Subtype (if multiple subtypes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Criteria for Reporting</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Laboratory Criteria for Reporting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Epidemiological Linkage Criteria for Reporting</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
S = This criterion alone is SUFFICIENT to report a case. (*Note: columns with “S” criteria should not contain any “N” or “O” criteria.*)
N = All “N” criteria in the same column are NECESSARY to report a case. *(Note: an “N” criterion should be accompanied by at least one additional “N” or at least one “O” criteria in a single column.)*

O = At least one of these “O” (ONE OR MORE) criteria in each category (categories=clinical evidence, laboratory evidence, and epidemiological evidence) in the same column—in conjunction with all “N” criteria in the same column—is required to report a case. *(Note: These “O” criteria are alternatives, which means that a single column can have no “O” criteria, OR at least one “O” criteria in conjunction with “N” criteria, OR only “O” criteria without any “N” criteria.)*

* A requisition or order for any of the “S” laboratory tests is sufficient to meet the reporting criteria.

### Table VII. Classification Table: Criteria for defining a case of [disease/condition].

Criteria listed in Table VII should match the criteria described in Sections VII.A. and VII.B. in accompanying position statement. Recommended format for Table VII is provided below. Where appropriate, such as where case finding may be based on both reporting and secondary analysis of administrative data, list case classifications separately for each data source specified for case identification. Conceptually this information needs to be listed discretely and in a manner that is machine readable.

As appropriate, list criteria for:

- **Suspected Cases**: cases where clinical features were compatible with the disease or condition, but either further investigation is required or investigation of the case did not provide supporting evidence for the disease or condition.
- **Probable Cases**: cases where alternative etiologies were investigated and excluded, and/or where substantial supportive information for the disease or condition was found.
- **Confirmed Cases**: cases with the highest level of certainty.
- **Criteria to distinguish a new case**: from Section VII.B. “Criteria to distinguish a new case of this disease or condition from reports or notifications which should not be enumerated as a new case for surveillance,” which should be considered in determining whether to count this as a new case. This section is not applicable if not relevant to the condition.

Each alternative disease or condition subtype or scenario is listed in a separate column. Each criterion (symptom, sign, lab result, immunization status, occupation, travel history, etc.) is listed in a separate row. Meeting the criteria listed under any single column of this table is sufficient to classify a case. *(Use letter codes listed under the table – NO ADDITIONAL LETTER CODES ALLOWED.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Suspect</th>
<th>Probable</th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Evidence</td>
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<td>Laboratory Evidence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Epidemiologic Linkage Evidence</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Criteria to distinguish a new case:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>[Example: Not counted as a case in the 30 days prior to this report]</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
component. \textit{(Note: an “\textit{N}” criterion should be accompanied by at least one additional “\textit{N}” or at least two “\textit{O}” criteria in a single column.)}

\( \text{O} \) = At least one of these “\textit{O}” (ONE OR MORE) criteria in each category (categories=clinical evidence, laboratory evidence, and epidemiologic evidence) in the same column—in conjunction with all “\textit{N}” criteria in the same column—is required to classify a case. \textit{(Note: These “\textit{O}” criteria are alternatives, which means that a single column can have no “\textit{O}” criteria, OR at least one “\textit{O}” criteria in conjunction with “\textit{N}” criteria, OR only “\textit{O}” criteria without any “\textit{N}” criteria.)} A number following an “\textit{O}” indicates that this criterion is only required for a specific disease/condition subtype. [Use additional columns to indicate different disease/condition subtypes (e.g., cutaneous anthrax vs. inhalational anthrax; type of arbovirus; foodborne botulism vs. wound botulism).]