

## WHAT IS A NOTIFIABLE MEDICAL CONDITION (NMC)?

Notifiable Medical Conditions are diseases that are of public health importance because they pose significant public health risks that can result in disease outbreaks or epidemics with high case fatality rates both nationally and internationally.

## WHY IS IT A LEGAL REQUIREMENT TO TIMEOUSLY REPORT ALL NMC?

The only way we can control spread of infectious diseases within the population is through identification of diseased persons and implementation of necessary public health actions to ensure that the disease is not spread to other people. Real-time efficient surveillance and reporting of such diseases provides an early warning signal and provides a window of opportunity to interrupt the disease transmission cycle.

The International Health Regulations, 2005 (IHR) and the National Health Act, 61 Of 2003 in South Africa require the rapid detection of NMC, as well as the prompt risk assessment, notification, verification and implementation of timely interventions.

## FOR ANY NMC RELATED QUESTIONS/QUERIES/CONCERNS?

NMC helpline: 072 621 3805  
Email: NMCsurveillanceReport@nicd.ac.za  
Fax: 086 639 1638  
Website: www.nicd.ac.za

## WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REPORTING NMC?

Every doctor or nurse (health care provider) in both the public and private health sector who diagnoses a patient with any one of the NMC must report the case. **Failure to report a NMC is a criminal offense.**

## IN SOUTH AFRICA WHICH CONDITIONS ARE NOTIFIABLE?

### Category 1 NMC

Must be reported immediately using the most rapid means upon clinical or laboratory diagnosis followed by a written or electronic notification within 24 hours of diagnosis.

### Category 2 NMC

Must be reported through a written or electronic notification, within 7 days of clinical or laboratory diagnosis but preferably as soon as possible following diagnosis.

### Category 3 NMC

Must be reported monthly by all public and private laboratories.

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## CATEGORY 1 NMC

Acute flaccid paralysis
Acute rheumatic fever
Anthrax
Botulism
Cholera
Food borne illness outbreak
Malaria
Measles
Meningococcal disease
Plague
Poliomyelitis
Rabies (human)
Respiratory disease caused by a novel respiratory pathogen**
Rift valley fever (human)
Smallpox
Viral haemorrhagic fever diseases*
Waterborne illness outbreak
Yellow fever

## CATEGORY 2 NMC

Agricultural or stock remedy poisoning
Bilharzia (schistosomiasis)
Brucellosis
Congenital rubella syndrome
Congenital syphilis
Diphtheria
Enteric fever (typhoid or paratyphoid fever)

## CATEGORY 2 NMC

Haemophilus influenza type B
Hepatitis A
Hepatitis B
Hepatitis C
Hepatitis E
Lead poisoning
Legionellosis
Leprosy
Maternal death (pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium)
Mercury poisoning
Pertussis
Soil-transmitted helminth infections
Tetanus
Tuberculosis: pulmonary
Tuberculosis: extra - pulmonary
Tuberculosis: multidrug-resistant (MDR-TB)
Tuberculosis: extensively drug-resistant (XDR-TB)

## CATEGORY 3 NMC

NMC	Pathogen/s to notify
Endemicarboviral diseases	West Nile virus, Sindbis virus, Chikungunya virus
Non-endemic arboviral diseases	Dengue fever virus, other imported arboviruses of medical importance
Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli	Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli
Rubella	Rubella virus
Non-typhoidal Salmonellosis	Salmonella spp. other than S. Typhi and S. Paratyphi
Shigellosis	Shigella spp.
Healthcare-associated infections or multi drug-resistant organisms of public health importance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Carbapenemase - producing Enterobacteriaceae</li> <li>- Vancomycin-resistant Enterococci</li> <li>- Staphylococcus aureus: hGISA and GISA</li> <li>- Colistin-resistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa</li> <li>- Colistin-resistant Acinetobacter baumannii</li> <li>- Clostridium difficile</li> <li>- Extensively-drug resistant Neisseria gonorrhoeae</li> </ul>

## HOW DO I NOTIFY?

Use the paper based or the electronic notification system as detailed below:

*Category 1 NMC must be reported to the local health authority immediately using the most rapid means*

**Paper based notification** (also refer to SOP for paper based NMC reporting)

1. Complete the NMC Case Notification Form.
2. Send the NMC Case Notification Form to [NMCsurveillanceReport@nicd.ac.za](mailto:NMCsurveillanceReport@nicd.ac.za) or fax to 086 639 1638 or NMC hotline 072 621 3805. Form(s) can be sent via sms, whatsapp, email, fax.
3. Send a copy to the NMC focal person at Sub-District/District (details given on the cover page of the NMC booklet).

OR

## Electronic notification via the NMC APP

(Also refer to the NMC APP user manuals)

1. Capture the NMC case details onto the NMC mobile or web APP.
2. Upon completion of data capture, the notification will automatically be sent to all relevant focal people at Health Establishment, Sub-District, District, Province & National levels



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