

NOTIFIABLE MEDICAL CONDITIONS (NMC) CASE DEFINITIONS

Category 1: Immediate reporting telephonically followed by written or electronic notification within 24hrs of diagnosing a case

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE-2019 (COVID-19)

Why is Surveillance Necessary?	Who Must Notify and When?	Suspected Case Definition	Probable Case Definition	Confirmed Case Definition
<p>Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is the causative virus of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). WHO has declared a global pandemic.</p> <p>Limited data suggest clinical manifestations of COVID-19 are generally milder in children than adults. However, reports from Europe and North America describe clusters of children and adolescents requiring admission to intensive care with a multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C).</p> <p>It is essential to report and characterize this syndrome including clinical presentation, risk factors, severity, and outcomes.</p>	<p>The healthcare worker responsible for the patient should notify authorities immediately of a probable or confirmed case.</p> <p>Outcome of patient should be updated if status changes following notification.</p>	<p>Not notifiable</p> <p>Any person presenting with an acute (≤ 10 days) respiratory tract infection or other clinical illness compatible with COVID-19.</p> <p>Symptoms include ANY of the following respiratory symptoms: cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, anosmia (loss of sense of smell) or dysgeusia (alteration of the sense of taste), with or without other symptoms (which may include fever, weakness, myalgia, or diarrhoea).</p>	<p>A person of any age positive for SARS-CoV-2 using an antigen based test¹ AND that is asymptomatic AND not a close contact² of a confirmed case</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A person of any age that has COVID-19 related symptoms (suspected case) AND that is a close contact² of a confirmed case</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A person aged 0-19 years meeting the case definition of multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C)³ AND with positive SARS-CoV-2 antibody or antigen based¹ test or close contact² of a confirmed case²; but SARS-CoV-2 PCR negative or PCR not done.</p>	<p>A person of any age with laboratory confirmation of SARS-CoV-2 infection (using a PCR-based test), irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms (includes MIS-C³ with SARS-CoV-2 PCR positive)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A person of any age positive for SARS-CoV-2 using an antigen based test¹ AND that has COVID-19 related symptoms (suspected case) OR is a close contact² of a confirmed case.</p>

Additional notes

¹ Rapid antigen test should be performed within 5 days of symptom onset or within 7 days from time of exposure.

² Close contact: A person having had face-to-face contact (≤ 1 metre) or been in a closed space with a confirmed case for at least 15 minutes. This includes, amongst others, all persons living in the same household as a case, and people working closely in the same environment as a case. Healthcare workers or other people providing direct care for a case, while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment or PPE (e.g., gowns, gloves, N95 respirator, eye protection). A contact in an aircraft sitting within two seats (in any direction) of the case, travel companions or persons providing care, and crew members serving in the section of the aircraft where the case was seated.

³ MIS-C case definition available at: <https://www.nicd.ac.za/diseases-a-z-index/covid-19/covid-19-resources/>

Additional resources

Additional resources for COVID-19 including case definitions, FAQs, specimen collection instructions and guidelines may be found at: <https://www.nicd.ac.za/diseases-a-z-index/covid-19/covid-19-resources/>