

NOTIFIABLE MEDICAL CONDITIONS (NMC) CASE DEFINITIONS FLIPCHART

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

MALARIA

Why is surveillance necessary?	Who must notify and when?	Suspected case definition	Probable case definition	Confirmed case definition
<p>Systemic febrile infection caused by five species of mosquito-transmitted protozoal parasites, generally acquired in known risk areas, but occasionally associated with blood transfusions, needle injuries, and imported mosquitoes in non-endemic areas.</p> <p>Notification of cases is essential to track disease burden in endemic provinces, and to investigate the reason for imported cases in non-endemic areas.</p>	<p>Healthcare practitioner who makes the diagnosis should notify the case immediately following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A positive rapid (bedside) test for malaria • A positive test from a blood specimen submitted to a laboratory. 	<p>In an endemic area, an acute febrile flu-like illness (AFFI) in a person with a history of exposure; OR In a non-endemic area, an AFFI with a history of blood transfusion or injections, or AFFI with no other cause for illness and compatible non-specific laboratory findings, especially thrombocytopenia.</p>	<p>Clinically suspected case in a recognized malaria outbreak or endemic area.</p>	<p>Positive malaria test (blood smear, rapid antigen, PCR) for any of the species: <i>P. falciparum</i>, <i>P. vivax</i>, <i>P. ovale</i>, <i>P. malariae</i>, <i>P. knowlesi</i>.</p>
<p>Additional notes</p> <p>In endemic areas, malaria cases should be notified by completion of the NMC paper form, and submitted to the provincial malaria control programme officials. Malaria control programme officials will then investigate each case according to current procedures.</p> <p>In non-endemic areas, malaria cases should be notified on the NMC app, or on paper by completion of the NMC form. Where cases do not report a travel history, an entomological assessment of the house and geographical location of residence should be conducted by environmental health officials so as to find mosquito breeding sites and kill possible <i>Plasmodium</i> species larvae</p>				
<p>Additional resources</p> <p>The following resources are available at https://www.nicd.ac.za/diseases-a-z-index/malaria/ A Frequently asked questions (FAQ) document, a malaria risk map (December 2018), South African guidelines for treatment and prevention of malaria, surveillance guidelines for malaria elimination and prevention of re-introduction for south Africa (2012).</p>				