

## Meningococcal Disease (*Neisseria meningitidis*)

### 2015 CDC Case Definition

#### Case Classification:

##### *Suspected*

- Clinical purpura fulminans in the absence of a positive blood culture; or
- Gram-negative diplococci, not yet identified, isolated from a normally sterile body site (e.g., blood or CSF).

##### *Probable*

- Detection of *N. meningitidis* antigen
  - In formalin-fixed tissue by immunohistochemistry (IHC); or
  - In CSF by latex agglutination.

##### *Confirmed*

- Detection of *N. meningitidis*-specific nucleic acid in a specimen obtained from a normally sterile body site (e.g., blood or CSF), using a validated polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay; or
- Isolation of *N. meningitidis*
  - From a normally sterile body site (e.g., blood or CSF, or less commonly, synovial, pleural, or pericardial fluid); or
  - From purpuric lesions.