

Case Definition

The following case definition for paralytic poliomyelitis and nonparalytic poliovirus infection has been approved by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) and was published in 2023.[24]

Clinical Criteria:

Acute onset of flaccid paralysis with decreased or absent tendon reflexes in the affected limbs, in the absence of a more likely alternative diagnosis.

Laboratory Criteria

Confirmatory Laboratory Evidence:

- poliovirus detected by sequencing of the capsid region of the genome by the CDC Poliovirus Laboratory,
- OR
- poliovirus identified in an appropriate clinical specimen (e.g., stool [preferred], cerebrospinal fluid, oropharyngeal secretions) using a properly validated assay,
- AND
- specimen is not available for sequencing by the CDC Poliovirus Laboratory.

Case Classifications:

Confirmed:

Paralytic Poliomyelitis: Meets clinical criteria AND confirmatory laboratory evidence.

Nonparalytic Poliovirus Infection: Meets confirmatory laboratory evidence.