

Campylobacteriosis (*Campylobacter* spp.)

2015 Case Definition

CSTE Position Statement Number: 14-ID-09

Clinical Description

An illness of variable severity commonly manifested by diarrhea, abdominal pain, nausea and sometimes vomiting. The organism may also rarely cause extra-intestinal infections such as bacteremia, meningitis or other focal infections.

Laboratory Criteria for Diagnosis

Probable

Detection of *Campylobacter* spp. in a clinical specimen using a culture independent diagnostic test (CIDT¹).

Confirmed

Isolation of *Campylobacter* spp. from a clinical specimen.

Case Classification

Probable

A case that meets the probable laboratory criteria for diagnosis or a clinically compatible case that is epidemiologically linked to a probable or confirmed case of campylobacteriosis.

Confirmed

A case that meets the confirmed laboratory criteria for diagnosis.

Comment

The use of CIDTs as stand-alone tests for the direct detection of *Campylobacter* in stool is increasing. Data regarding their performance indicates variability in the sensitivity, specificity, and positive predictive value of these assays depending on the manufacturer (CDC unpublished data). It is therefore useful to collect information on the laboratory conducting the testing using the laboratory's unique Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) number, and when possible, type and manufacturer of the CIDT¹ used to diagnose each case. Culture confirmation of CIDT¹-positive specimens is ideal, but not practical to achieve in most jurisdictions.

1. Culture-independent diagnostic testing includes PCR, EIA, ELISA, and other antigen detection tests. It does NOT include Antibody testing.