



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

RECEIVED SEP 26 2005

SEP 22 2005

Patrick J. McConnon, M.P.H.
Executive Director
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
2872 Woodcock Boulevard, Suite 303
Atlanta, Georgia 30341-4015

Dear Mr. McConnon:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists' (CSTE) position statements listed below and the opportunity to provide recommendations around surveillance and recommended changes in current case definitions of several conditions. Please excuse the delay of this response. Enclosed are the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) responses to the following CSTE Position Statements:

- 05-ID-01, "Strengthening surveillance for travel-associated legionellosis and revised case definitions for legionellosis."
- 05-ID-05, "Revision of the National Surveillance Case Definition for Meningococcal."
- 05-ID-07, "Revision of the Enterohemorrhagic *Escherichia coli* (EHEC) condition name to Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) and to adopt serotype specific national reporting for STEC."
- 05-ID-08, "Revision of serotype specific national reporting for Shigellosis."
- 05-ID-09, "Revision of serotype specific national reporting for Salmonellosis."
- 05-ID-11, "Revision of the Criteria for Laboratory Diagnosis of Hepatitis C Virus Infection, Chronic or Resolved."

Please be advised that CDC's response relative to CSTE position statement 05-ID-04, "Revision of Surveillance Case Definition for AIDS among adults and adolescents ≥ 13 years of age," will be sent to you under separate cover with information from our National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention.

We look forward to continued collaboration with CSTE regarding public health issues of mutual concern.

Sincerely,


Julie Louise Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director

Enclosures

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Comments

CSTE Position Statement 05-ID-07

Title: "Revision of the Enterohemorrhagic *Escherichia coli* (EHEC) condition name to Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) and to adopt serotype specific national reporting for STEC"

CSTE recommends:

Statement of the desired action(s) to be taken:

Change the Nationally Notifiable Diseases Case Definition designation from EHEC to STEC and include specific serotypes of isolates from cases, when possible. Remove from the NNDSS conditions list "Enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* O157:H7," "Enterohemorrhagic *E. coli*, Shiga toxin positive (not serogrouped)" and "Enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* (serogroup non-O157)." For states which cannot report serotypes in NEDSS (or compatible systems), continue to report through NETSS until data can be transferred through NEDSS.

CSTE Position Statement 05-ID-08

Title: "Revision of serotype specific national reporting for Shigellosis"

CSTE recommends:

Statement of the desired action(s) to be taken:

Adopt serotype-specific reporting of laboratory confirmed shigellosis cases.

CSTE Position Statement 05-ID-09

Title: "Revision of serotype specific national reporting for Salmonellosis"

CSTE recommends:

Statement of the desired action(s) to be taken:

Adopt serotype-specific reporting of laboratory confirmed salmonellosis cases.

CDC comments:

CDC thanks CSTE for addressing these important advances in public health surveillance, in collaboration with CDC programs. With the advent of the National Electronic Diseases Surveillance System (NEDSS), we have the opportunity to integrate many aspects of public health surveillance into a more efficient and effective public health surveillance architecture. These position statements addressing changes to case definitions for the National Notifiable

Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) are important components of integrated surveillance. For example, with the implementation of these new case definitions, the reports of notifiable diseases through NEDSS will supplant the Public Health Laboratory Information System (PHLIS).

CDC concurs with the new NNDSS case definitions for Salmonellosis, Shigellosis, and Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC) infections as stated in the position statements. We think it is possible and highly desirable to provide all *Salmonella* serotypes as picklist choices in the new NEDSS Program Area Module for *Salmonella*. To implement these new NNDSS case definitions, CDC will update the Division of Public Health Surveillance and Informatics Internet website with the new case definitions. CDC will also collaborate with CSTE to update the NNDSS tables published in the weekly *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* and the NNDSS Annual Summary to reflect changes to the STEC case definition; changes to these reporting tables will not be necessary for Salmonellosis and Shigellosis.

Surveillance reports received via NEDSS or other Public Health Information Network compliant systems will be used to replace data previously obtained from PHLIS as states convert to these new surveillance systems. Annual summaries of serotype-specific surveillance for *Salmonella*, *Shigella* and STEC published by the Division of Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases, NCID, will reflect this change.

The Division of Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases, NCID, and the Division of Public Health Surveillance and Informatics, NCPHI, will provide guidance to reporting sites concerning changes applied to these case definitions.