Pertussis (Whooping Cough) (Bordetella pertussis)

2020 Case Definition - CSTE Position Statement 19-ID-08

Clinical Criteria
In the absence of a more likely diagnosis, a cough illness lasting ≥2 weeks, with at least one of the following signs or symptoms:

- Paroxysms of coughing; OR
- Inspiratory whoop; OR
- Post-tussive vomiting; OR
- Apnea (with or without cyanosis)

Laboratory Criteria

Confirmatory laboratory evidence:

- Isolation of B. pertussis from a clinical specimen
- Positive Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) for B. pertussis

Epidemiologic Linkage

- Contact with a laboratory-confirmed case of pertussis

Case Classification

Probable

- In the absence of a more likely diagnosis, illness meeting the clinical criteria

OR

- Illness with cough of any duration, with
  - At least one of the following signs or symptoms:
    - Paroxysms of coughing; or
    - Inspiratory whoop; or
    - Post-tussive vomiting; or
    - Apnea (with or without cyanosis)

AND

- Contact with a laboratory confirmed case (epidemiologic linkage)

Confirmed

Acute cough illness of any duration, with

- Isolation of B. pertussis from a clinical specimen OR
- PCR positive for B. pertussis