**LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT DISEASE INVESTIGATION STEPS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NC REPORTABLE DISEASE/CONDITION</th>
<th>INFECTIOUS AGENT (S)</th>
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<tr>
<td>ENCEPHALITIS ARBOVIRAL, LACROSSE</td>
<td><em>Lacrosse Virus</em></td>
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**PREPARING FOR INVESTIGATION**

**KNOW THE DISEASE/CONDITION**

- Read about Encephalitis Arboviral, Lacrosse in the CD Manual.
- See the case definition for Encephalitis Arboviral, Lacrosse in the CD Manual.
- Print and review reporting forms:
  - *Part 1: Confidential Disease Report (DHHS 2124)*
  - *Part 2: Encephalitis Arboviral, Lacrosse (DHHS/EPI #96)*

**CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION**

**COLLECT CLINICAL INFORMATION**

- If patient hospitalized for this disease, obtain medical record (admission note, progress note, lab report(s), and discharge summary).
- Obtain healthcare provider clinical notes from date(s) of service for this disease/condition.
- Look for evidence in the medical record that supports clinical findings described in the case definition.

**REVIEW LABORATORY INFORMATION**

- Review laboratory report(s) specific to this disease or facilitate testing through the SLPH if needed.
- Evaluate laboratory results to determine if requirements of the case definition are satisfied.
- Contact healthcare provider if further testing of the patient is indicated.

**APPLY THE CASE DEFINITION**

- Use the case definition to determine if the clinical and laboratory findings meet the case definition criteria.

**IMPLEMENTING CONTROL MEASURES**

**ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY SOURCE OF EXPOSURE**

- Review clinical records for potential source(s) of exposure.
- If probable source of exposure is not evident in clinical information, interview patient to obtain additional information.

**IMPLEMENT CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT DISEASE AND ADDITIONAL EXPOSURES**

- Use the CDC website [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) to teach at risk people about the disease.
- Alert the local health director, environmental health specialist and mosquito control officials to the existence of case and encourage mosquito control measures.
**REPORTING INVESTIGATION**

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<th>REPORT TO NC COMMUNICABLE DISEASE BRANCH (CD)</th>
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| • Enter Part 1 and Part 2 Communicable Disease Reports into NC EDSS as a new event, or update the existing event if already entered.  
• Assign event to State Disease Registrar when case investigation complete. |

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<th>CASE FINDING</th>
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| • During the course of the investigation, look for symptoms of disease in other exposed individuals.  
• Refer symptomatic individuals to healthcare provider for evaluation.  
• If two or more cases are epidemiologically linked, report as an outbreak of Encephalitis, Arboviral, Lacrosse.  
• If indicated, submit an outbreak summary report within 30 days from close of outbreak. |

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<tr>
<th>SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS</th>
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<tr>
<td>STATE LABORATORY OF PUBLIC HEALTH (SLPH) TESTING</td>
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<td>• Media interest may be piqued by this disease, especially if hospitalization or death occurs. Consider verifying the laboratory test results by sending specimen(s) to the SLPH/CDC for reference testing.</td>
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<td>PERSONAL PROTECTIVE MEASURES</td>
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<td>• Enteric precautions appropriate until enterovirus meningoencephalitis (see viral meningitis) is ruled out. Not transmitted from person to person except rarely by transfusion.</td>
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<td>RISK COMMUNICATION</td>
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| • Consider using risk communication tools conservatively if this is a low profile, naturally-occurring case.  
• Outbreaks will need NC HAN alerts, EPI-X reports, MD alerts, and probably a press release.  
• NC DHHS Public Information Office (919) 733-9190 is available to assist local health departments as needed. |