# LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT DISEASE INVESTIGATION STEPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NC REPORTABLE DISEASE/CONDITION</th>
<th>INFECTIOUS AGENT (S)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YELLOW FEVER</td>
<td>Yellow Fever Virus, genus Flavivirus</td>
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## PREPARING FOR INVESTIGATION

### KNOW THE DISEASE/CONDITION
- Read about Yellow Fever in the CD Manual.
- See the case definition for Yellow Fever in the CD Manual.
- Print and review reporting forms:
  
  - *Confidential Disease Report (DHHS 2124)*
  - *Yellow Fever (DHHS/EPI #48)*

## CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION

### COLLECT CLINICAL INFORMATION
- Obtain admission note, progress note, and discharge summary if patient hospitalized for this disease/condition.
- 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.
- 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) and the CDC Travelers’ Health website available at [www.cdc.gov/travel/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/index.htm) to teach at risk people about the disease and vaccination requirements.
- Although yellow fever is not transmitted from person to person, the remote possibility that a mosquito biting an infected person shortly after onset of fever and for the first 3 to 5 days of illness could become infected and pass yellow fever to other individuals exists. Prevent access of mosquitoes to the patient during this period.

**REPORTING INVESTIGATION**

**REPORT TO NC COMMUNICABLE DISEASE BRANCH (CD)**
- 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.

**CASE FINDING**
- During the course of the investigation, look for symptoms of the disease in other individuals who may have traveled with the patient.
- Refer symptomatic individuals to healthcare provider for evaluation.

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**RISK COMMUNICATION**
- Any case of this disease may pique interest among media, health professionals, government officials, and the public.
- Consider using risk communication tools conservatively if this is a low profile, naturally-occurring case.
- Outbreaks of even naturally-occurring cases 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.