

## Rare or Emerging Communicable Disease

### Created Dates

Case Definition	December 2014
Reporting Requirements	April 2018

### Case Definition

#### Confirmed Case\*

The occurrence of a communicable disease or health condition<sup>(A)</sup> that is:

- caused by a nuisance<sup>(B)</sup> or other threat to the public health,

#### AND

- considered rare or unexpected,

#### AND/OR

- has the capacity to pose a threat to public health or has capacity for rapid transmission,

#### AND

- not otherwise notifiable or under surveillance as per sections 15(1), 22(1) and 22(2) of the *Public Health Act*.

\*NOTE: The exact case definition for a disease that may fall under Rare or Emerging communicable disease will vary depending on the organism and may include probable and/or suspect.

<sup>(A)</sup> The health condition may be acute or chronic in nature.

<sup>(B)</sup> Nuisance as defined in the *Public Health Act*, means a condition that is or that might become injurious or dangerous to the public health, or that might hinder in any manner the prevention or suppression of disease.

## Reporting Requirements

### 1. Physicians, Health Practitioners and others

Physicians, health practitioners and others shall notify the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) (or designate) of the zone, of all confirmed\* cases in the prescribed form by the Fastest Means Possible (FMP).

### 2. Laboratories

All laboratories shall report all positive laboratory results by FMP to the MOH (or designate) of the zone and the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) (or designate).

### 3. Alberta Health Services and First Nations and Inuit Health Branch

- The MOH (or designate) of the zone where the case currently resides shall notify the CMOH (or designate) by FMP of all confirmed\* cases.
- The MOH (or designate) of the zone where the case currently resides shall forward the initial Notifiable Disease Report (NDR) of all confirmed\* cases to the CMOH (or designate) within one week of notification and the final NDR (amendment) within two weeks of notification.
- For out-of-province and out-of-country reports, the following information should be forwarded to the CMOH (or designate) by FMP:
  - name,
  - date of birth,
  - out-of-province health care number,
  - out-of-province address and phone number,
  - positive laboratory report, and
  - other relevant clinical / epidemiological information.

\*NOTE: The exact case definition for a disease that may fall under Rare or Emerging communicable disease will vary depending on the organism and may include probable and/or suspect reporting requirements.