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# Alberta Public Health Disease Management Guidelines

*Clostridium difficile* - Associated Infection



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For further information on the use of this guideline contact:

[Health.CD@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Health.CD@gov.ab.ca)

Health and Wellness Promotion Branch

Public Health and Compliance Branch

Alberta Health

***Clostridium difficile* - Associated Infection** | Alberta Health, Government of Alberta

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# Case Definition

## Confirmed Case

Clinical illness (i.e., acute onset of diarrhea<sup>(A)</sup> or fever, abdominal pain and/or ileus) without another etiology and one of the following:

- Laboratory confirmation of a positive toxin A or B assay for *Clostridium difficile*<sup>(B)</sup> (e.g., EIA, NAT for toxin A/B or tissue culture assay)

OR

- Diagnosis of pseudomembranous colitis on endoscopy

OR

- Histological/pathological diagnosis of *C. difficile*<sup>(B)</sup> – Associated Infection (CDI)

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<sup>(A)</sup> Diarrhea is defined as watery bowel movement (BM) that conforms to the shape of the container that holds it or BM that is unusual/different for that patient.

<sup>(B)</sup> Also called *Clostridioides difficile*.

# Reporting Requirements

## Laboratories

All laboratories shall report all positive laboratory results (including histological/pathological reports) by mail, fax or electronic transfer to the:

- Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) (or designate), and
- MOH (or designate) of the zone.

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

- Laboratory surveillance only.
- Completion of a Notifiable Disease Report form is not required.

# Appendix 1: Revision History

| Revision Date | Document Section | Description of Revision  |
|---------------|------------------|--|
| October 2021  | General          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Updated Template</li></ul> |