

Annex B. Case Definitions of Department of Health Case
Definition of Suspect, Probable and Confirmed COVID-19
Cases

Department of Health Case Definition of Suspect, Probable and Confirmed COVID-19 Cases

A. Suspect Case

1. A person who meets the clinical AND epidemiologic criteria:
 - a. Clinical criteria
 - i. Acute onset of fever AND cough **OR**
 - ii. Acute onset of any of the three or more of the following signs or symptoms: fever, cough, general weakness, fatigue, headache, myalgia, sore throat, coryza, dyspnea, anorexia/nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, altered mental status
 - b. Epidemiologic criteria
 - i. Residing or working in an area with high risk of transmission of the virus: for example, closed residential settings and humanitarian settings such as camp and camp-like settings for displaced persons, any time within the 14 days prior to symptoms onset; **OR**
 - ii. Residing in or travel to an area with community transmission anytime within the 14 days prior to symptom onset **OR**
 - iii. Working in health settings including within health facilities and within households, anytime within the 14 days prior to symptoms onset
 - c. Patient with severe acute respiratory illness (SARI: acute respiratory infection with history of fever or measured fever ≥ 38 C, and cough with onset within the last 10 days and who require hospitalization)

B. Probable COVID-19 Case

1. A patient who meets clinical criteria above AND is a contact of a probable or confirmed case, or epidemiologically linked to a cluster of cases which has at least one confirmed case identified within that cluster
2. A suspected case (detailed above) with chest imaging showing findings suggestive of COVID-19 disease*

*Typical chest imaging findings suggestive of cCOVID-19 include the following:

- Chest radiography: hazy opacities, often rounded in morphology with peripheral and lower lung distribution
 - Chest CT: multiple bilateral ground glass opacities, often rounded in morphology, with peripheral and lower lung distribution
 - Lung ultrasound: thickened pleural lines, B lines (multifocal, discrete, or confluent), consolidative patterns with or without air bronchogram
3. A person with recent onset of anosmia (loss of smell) or ageusia (loss of taste) in the absence of any of other identified cause
 4. Death, not otherwise explained, in an adult with respiratory distress preceding death AND who was a contact of a probable or confirmed case or epidemiologically linked to a cluster which had at least one confirmed case identified within that cluster.

C. Confirmed COVID-19 case

1. A person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms

Reference: Annex K of DOH Department Memorandum No. 2020- 0512 Revised Omnibus Interim Guidelines on Prevention, Detection, Isolation, Treatment and Reintegration Strategies for COVID-19 dated November 26, 2020

