

Streptococcus Disease, Invasive, Group A (*Streptococcus pyogenes*)

CDC 1995 Case Definition

www.cdc.gov/epo/dphsi/casedef/streptococcuscurrent.htm

Clinical description

Invasive group A streptococcal infections may manifest as any of several clinical syndromes, including pneumonia, bacteremia in association with cutaneous infection (e.g., cellulitis, erysipelas, or infection of a surgical or nonsurgical wound), deep soft-tissue infection (e.g., myositis or necrotizing fasciitis), meningitis, peritonitis, osteomyelitis, septic arthritis, postpartum sepsis (i.e., puerperal fever), neonatal sepsis, and nonfocal bacteremia.

Laboratory criteria for diagnosis

- Isolation of group A *Streptococcus* (*Streptococcus pyogenes*) by culture from a normally sterile site (e.g., blood or cerebrospinal fluid, or, less commonly, joint, pleural, or pericardial fluid)

Case classification

Confirmed: a case that is laboratory confirmed

Exception: if GAS is isolated from a wound **AND** is accompanied by necrotizing fasciitis or STSS (streptococcal toxic shock syndrome), it is considered a case*

*Active Bacterial Core Surveillance Definition

Clarification of Sterile Site- From CDC's Active Bacterial Core Surveillance 2005 Case Report Form Instruction Sheet

Sterile site(s) Indicate ALL sterile sites from which the invasive group a strep was isolated. If isolated from an internal body site or other normally sterile site, please specify the site. Internal body site should be specified as one of the following: lymph node, brain, heart, liver, spleen, vitreous fluid, kidney, pancreas, or ovary.

Clarifications:

Pleural fluid: includes chest fluid, thoracentesis fluid

Peritoneal fluid: includes abdominal fluid, ascites

Joint: includes synovial fluid; fluid, needle aspirate or culture of any specific joint (knee, ankle, elbow, hip, wrist). (There is no need to enter the specific joint in the other field. If you would like to indicate the specific joint, do so in the Comments section.)

Bone: includes bone marrow

Muscle: includes tissue or biopsy that is surgically obtained

Internal Body Site: specimen obtained from surgery or aspirate from one of the following: lymph node, brain, heart, liver, spleen, vitreous fluid, kidney, pancreas, or ovary.

Autopsy: If the culture is taken 12 hours or less after death, autopsy specimens *may* be considered sterile sites. Autopsy specimen should be discussed with CDC on a case-by-case basis. Cultures taken more than 12 hours after death will not be considered sterile site cultures.

Specimens from skin infections such as skin abscesses, boils or furuncles or specimens from middle ear, amniotic fluid, placenta, sinus, wound, lung, gallbladder, appendix, cornea, cord blood, urine or throat **are not considered sterile sites** and should not be indicated as the only specimen from which the pathogen was isolated.

