

## Case Definition

### Confirmed Case:

A patient is defined as a case if they are one year of age or older and have one of the following requirements:

- A laboratory confirmation of a positive toxin assay or positive PCR for *C. difficile*.  
**OR**
- A diagnosis of pseudomembranes on sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy or histological/pathological diagnosis of *C. difficile*.  
**OR**
- A diagnosis of toxic megacolon (adult patients age > 18 years only).

## Clinical Evidence

Clinical illness consists of diarrhea or fever, abdominal pain and/or ileus.

## Reporting Requirements

Report *primary* confirmed cases to DHW Surveillance via Panorama.

Only “primary” episodes should be reported as cases and are defined as either:

- First episode of *C. difficile* ever experienced.  
**OR**
- A new episode of *C. difficile* which occurs > 8 weeks after the first toxin-positive assay.

## Additional Forms

None.