

CASE CLASSIFICATION TABLE – ALL ANTHRAX 2018

Criterion	All			
	Suspect	Probable	Probable	Confirmed
Clinical Evidence				
Additional Clinical Evidence				
Death of unknown cause	N	N	N	N
Organ involvement consistent with anthrax	N	N	N	N
Laboratory Evidence				
Laboratory testing ordered for anthrax	N			
Culture and identification of <i>B. anthracis</i> or <i>Bacillus cereus</i> expressing anthrax toxins from clinical specimens by the LRN				O
Detection of lethal factor (LF) in clinical serum specimens by LF mass spectrometry				O
Demonstration of <i>B. anthracis</i> antigens in tissues by immunohistochemical staining using both <i>B. anthracis</i> cell wall and capsule monoclonal antibodies				O
Evidence of a four-fold rise in antibodies to protective antigen between acute and convalescent sera or a fourfold change in antibodies to protective antigen in paired convalescent sera using quantitative anti-PA IgG ELISA testing in an unvaccinated person				O
Detection of <i>B. anthracis</i> or anthrax toxin genes by LRN PCR and/or sequencing in clinical specimens collected from a normally sterile site or lesion of other affected tissue				O
Positive result on a test with established performance in a CLIA-accredited laboratory		O		
Gram stain demonstrating Gram-positive rods, square-ended, in pairs or short chains		O		
Epidemiologic Evidence				
No identified epidemiologic association as another case of anthrax	N			
Exposure to the same environment, food, animal, materials, or objects as persons who have laboratory-confirmed anthrax			O	
Consumption of the same food as persons who have laboratory-confirmed anthrax			O	
Exposure to environmental, food, animal, materials, or objects that is suspect or confirmed to be contaminated with <i>B. anthracis</i>			O	

Notes:
 S = This criterion alone is Sufficient to classify a case
 N = All "N" criteria in the same column are Necessary to classify a case. A number following an "N" indicates that this criterion is only required for a specific disease/condition subtype.
 O = At least one of these "O" (One or more) criteria in each category (e.g., clinical evidence and laboratory evidence) in the same column — in conjunction with all "N" criteria in the same column — is required to classify a case (These "O" criteria are alternatives, which means that a single column will have either no O criteria or multiple O criteria; no column should have only one O.) A number following an "O" indicates that this criterion is only required for a specific disease/condition subtype.