

Reporting Criteria of Severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome (SFTS)

Note: Severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome, which is defined as below, requires notification starting from 4 March 2013.

(1) Definition:

Infectious disease caused by severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome (SFTS) virus belonging to genus *Phlebovirus* in the family of *Bunyaviridae*.

(2) Clinical symptoms:

The main route of infection is bite by ticks carrying SFTS virus.

The incubation period is 6-14 days. The main symptoms are fever and gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, and melena) associated occasionally with headache, myalgia, neurological symptoms, lymphadenopathy and bleeding. The blood picture consists of thrombopenia (<100,000/mm³), leukopenia (<4,000/mm³) and increase of serum enzymes (AST, ALT, LDH). The case fatality rate is 10-30%.

(3) Criteria of notification

a) “Patients (confirmed cases)”: Physicians who examined a patient with clinical signs listed in (2), suspected SFTS, and diagnosed the patient as SFTS based on the laboratory testing as described on the left column of the table below must notify immediately in compliance with the Law, Article 12, paragraph 1.

The specimens used for the laboratory tests should correspond to the test methods described on the right column of the table.

b) “Asymptomatic carrier”: Physicians who diagnosed a patient with no clinical signs listed in (2), but diagnosed the patient as SFTS asymptomatic carrier based on the laboratory testing listed on the left column of the table below must notify immediately in compliance with the Law, Article 12, paragraph 1.

The specimens used for the laboratory tests should correspond to the test methods described on the right column of the table.

c) “Dead body of the infected”: Physicians who examined a dead body with clinical signs listed in (2), suspected SFTS, and diagnosed the death was caused by SFTS based on the laboratory testing as described on the left column of the table below must notify immediately in compliance with the Law, Article 12, paragraph 1.

The specimens used for the laboratory tests should correspond to the test methods described on the right column of the table.

d) “Dead body suspected to be infected by SFTS”: Physicians who examined a dead body with clinical signs as described in (2), and suspected that the death was caused by SFTS must notify immediately in compliance with the Law, Article 12, paragraph 1.

Laboratory tests	Specimens
Detection of pathogens by isolation and identification	Blood, throat swab, urine
Detection of viral genome by PCR	
Detection of antibody by ELISA or fluorescent antibody method (Detection of IgM, or positive conversion or increased of antibody titer in paired serum specimens)	Serum
Detection of antibody by means of neutralization test (positive conversion or increased of antibody titer in paired serum specimens)	