



Reporting Criteria for Aseptic meningitis

(1) Definition

Meningeal infection due to various etiologies. It is mostly attributed to a variety of viruses, but includes other pathogens

(2) Clinical signs and symptoms:

The main symptoms are typically fever, headache and vomiting. In newborns and infants, however, clinical symptoms are often not indicative. Some patients may show stiff neck, Kernig sign, Brudzinski sign and other meningeal irritation signs, but these may not be apparent in many newborn or infant cases.

(3) Reporting criteria

a) "Patients (confirmed cases)"

In compliance with Article 14 paragraph 2 of the Infectious Diseases Control Law, if a physician at a designated sentinel medical institution has suspected acute meningitis in a patient with clinical characteristics as described in (2), and, has made a diagnosis of aseptic meningitis based on the criteria as described in (4) and (5), the administrator of the designated sentinel medical facility shall notify the case on the following Monday on a weekly basis.

b) "Deceased"

In compliance with Article 14 paragraph 2 of the Infectious Diseases Control Law, if a physician at a designated sentinel medical facility has suspected aseptic meningitis in a deceased patient based on the clinical characteristics as described in (2), and, has made a diagnosis that the death was due to aseptic meningitis based on the criteria as described in (4) and (5), the administrator of the designated sentinel medical facility must notify the case on the following Monday on a weekly basis.

(4) Clinical criteria for notification; both items (a) and (b) need to be satisfied

a. Main manifestations are fever, headache and vomiting

b. Stiff neck, Kernig sign, Brudzinski sign or other meningeal irritation sign
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*These signs may not be apparent in many newborn or infant cases.

(5) Laboratory findings for notification; both items (a) and (b) need to be satisfied

a) Increased cerebrospinal fluid cell count (very often monocytes dominant)

b) Normal cerebrospinal protein and glucose concentrations
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