

VTEC/STEC INFECTION

Basis of Diagnosis	
CLINICAL CRITERIA	
Fits clinical description	<p>Tick “Yes” if the case fits the clinical description as follows:</p> <p>Diarrhoea resulting from infection with VTEC/STEC may range from mild, watery and non-bloody to almost pure bloody diarrhoea with abdominal cramping. The disease is distinguishable from other causes of gastroenteritis by its high incidence of bloody diarrhoea (profuse rectal bleeding without fever sometimes clouds the diagnosis), severity (approximately 40 percent of cases are hospitalised) and frequency of complications.</p> <p>Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS) complicates 8–10 percent of VTEC/STEC infections in children; this syndrome includes haemolytic anaemia, thrombocytopenia and acute renal failure. Of children with HUS, 12–30 percent will have severe sequelae, including renal and cerebral impairment. Elderly patients with VTEC infections may suffer thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP), which is similar to HUS but with greater neurological involvement.</p>
Clinical features	Indicate whether the case had each of the clinical features listed. If the feature was present, record by ticking the “Yes” box. If not, tick the “No” box. If not known or unavailable, then tick the “Unknown” box.
LABORATORY CRITERIA	
Laboratory criteria	Indicate whether the case meets the laboratory criteria. If not, tick the “No” box. If not known or unavailable then tick the “Unknown” box.
Laboratory confirmation	Indicate the status of laboratory confirmation. If the laboratory test results were positive tick the “Yes” option, if negative tick the “No” option. If the results of the laboratory test are not yet available tick “Awaiting results”. If any of the laboratory tests were not carried out tick “Not Done”.
STATUS	<p>Under investigation – a case which has been notified but information is not yet available to classify it as confirmed.</p> <p>Probable – not applicable.</p> <p>Confirmed – a clinically compatible illness that is laboratory confirmed.</p>

	<p>Laboratory confirmation requires: Isolation of Shiga toxin (verotoxin) producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> OR detection of the genes associated with the production of Shiga toxin in <i>E. coli</i>.</p> <p>Not a case - A case that has been investigated, and subsequently has been shown not to meet the case definition. NOTE: Asymptomatic people with laboratory confirmation should be recorded under this category.</p>
ADDITIONAL LABORATORY DETAILS	
Organism serotype	If known, specify the organism serotype (e.g. O157:H7).
Clinical Course and Outcome (in addition to the instructions for the completion of modules common to all case report forms)	
Asymptomatic	Tick this box if the case is asymptomatic i.e. there is no date for onset of symptoms.
Received renal dialysis	Indicate whether the case received renal dialysis. If not known or unavailable, then tick the "Unknown" box.
Risk Factors	
Food consumption	Indicate whether the case ate any of the food items listed during the week before they became ill. If "Yes", indicate what type of food the case consumed, (e.g. if it was a dairy product, was it cheese, yoghurt, etc), the brand of food, and where they obtained the food, if known, e.g. supermarket, restaurant, friend's house, etc. If not known or unavailable, then tick the "Unknown" box.
Water supply	Specify the water supply code for current home address and the workplace or school/pre-school of the case. Refer to the "Register of Community Drinking Water Supplies in New Zealand". If the water source code is unknown or the water supply is not coded then specify the water supply. Indicate if the case had consumed water from a source which they would not normally use in the last week, e.g. camping trip, travel outside the area, etc. If "Yes", then specify the water supply.
Recreational contact with water	Indicate whether the case had recreational contact with water in the week before becoming ill. If "Yes", indicate the nature of recreational contact, and specify the name / location. If not known or unavailable, then tick the "Unknown" box.
Animal contact	Indicate whether the case had contact with animals during

	the week before they became ill. If “Yes”, indicate the nature of the contact and specify the type of animals the case had contact with. If not known or unavailable, then tick the “Unknown” box.
Attendance at school, pre-school or childcare	Indicate whether the case attends school, pre-school or childcare. If not known or unavailable, then tick the “Unknown” box.
Attendance at social functions	Indicate whether the case attended any social functions during the week before they became ill. If “Yes”, give details. If not known or unavailable, then tick the “Unknown” box.
Contact with children in nappies	Indicate whether the case had contact with children in nappies during the week before they became ill. If not known or unavailable, then tick the “Unknown” box.
Contact with another case with similar symptoms	Indicate whether the case had contact with another case with similar symptoms. If “Yes”, specify the nature of contact and the date of onset of illness in the other case. If not known or unavailable, then tick the “Unknown” box.
Overseas travel	Indicate whether the case was overseas during the incubation period for VTEC/STEC infection (3-8 days). If “Yes”, record the date of arrival in New Zealand. List the countries/regions visited (up to three) from the most recent to the least recent. Record date of entry and departure in each country/region.
Travel within New Zealand	Indicate whether the case had travelled within New Zealand in the week prior to illness. If “Yes”, specify where in New Zealand the case had travelled to. If not known or unavailable, then tick the “Unknown” box.
Sewage	Indicate whether the case had any contact with sewage in the week before they became ill. If not known or unavailable, then tick the “Unknown” box.
Raw meat	Indicate whether the case handled any raw meat or offal (including raw meat or offal given to pets) in the week before they became ill. If not known or unavailable, then tick the “Unknown” box.
Other risk factor for disease	Specify any other risk factors under surveillance for the disease if they were present.
Management	
CASE MANAGEMENT	
Case excluded from work	Indicate whether the case was excluded from work or

or school/pre-school/childcare	school/pre-school/childcare until well. If the case does not attend work or school/pre-school/childcare, tick the "NA" (not applicable) box. If not known or unavailable, then tick the "Unknown" box.
Food handler / caregiver	If the case works as a food handler, or cares for patients, elderly or children less than five years of age, indicate whether the case was excluded from work until microbiological clearance was achieved. If the case does not work as a food handler, nor is employed as a caregiver for patients, elderly, or children less than five years of age, tick the "NA" (not applicable) box. If not known or unavailable, then tick the "Unknown" box.
Number of contacts screened for infection	Record the number of contacts screened for infection as per local protocol.
Number of screened contacts with VTEC/STEC disease	Record the number of screened contacts that are identified with VTEC/STEC disease.