

ANNEX II

3. CASE DEFINITIONS OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

3.43. SYPHILIS

Clinical Criteria

Primary syphilis

Any person with one or several (usually painless) chancres in the genital, perineal, anal area or mouth or pharyngeal mucosa or elsewhere extragenitally

Secondary syphilis

Any person with at least one of the following five:

- Diffuse maculo-papular rash often involving palms and soles
- Generalized lymphadenopathy
- Condyloma lata
- Enanthema
- Diffuse alopecia

Early latent syphilis (< 1 year)

No symptoms and a history of symptoms compatible with those of the earlier stages of syphilis within the previous 12 months

Note that ocular and neurological manifestations may occur at any stage of syphilis.

Note that cases of late latent syphilis (> 1 year) are not under EU/EEA surveillance.

Laboratory Criteria

At least one of the following:

- Demonstration of *Treponema pallidum* in lesion exudates or tissues by dark-field microscopic examination
- Demonstration of *Treponema pallidum* in lesion exudates or tissues by DFA test
- Demonstration of *Treponema* in lesion exudates or tissues by nuclear acid amplification techniques (NAAT)
- Detection of *Treponema pallidum* antibodies by screening test (TPHA, TPPA or EIA) AND additionally detection of either TP-IgM antibodies (for example, IgM-ELISA or immunoblot or 19S-IgM-FTA-abs) OR non-TP antibodies (for example, RPR, VDRL).

Epidemiological Criteria

Primary/secondary syphilis

An epidemiological link by human to human (sexual contact)

Early latent syphilis

An epidemiological link by human to human (sexual contact) within the 12 previous months

Case Classification

- A. Possible case NA
- B. Probable case
 - Any person meeting the clinical criteria with an epidemiological link
- C. Confirmed case

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission
Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/945, Division 3.43.. (See end of Document for details)

Any person meeting the laboratory criteria for case confirmation

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/945, Division 3.43..