Wisconsin Division of Public Health Communicable Disease Surveillance Guideline

BACTERIAL MENINGITIS
(Non-meningococcal, non-Haemophilus influenzae)
Last revised May 10, 2013

I. IDENTIFICATION
A. CLINICAL DESCRIPTION: A group of diseases characterized by infection of the meninges caused by a bacterium other than Neisseria meningitidis, Haemophilus influenzae, Streptococcus pneumonia, Groups A or B Streptococcus, or Listeria monocytogenes. Some examples of other organisms that can cause bacterial meningitis are: Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, and Klebsiella species. Signs and symptoms of meningitis may include: sudden onset of fever, intense headache, stiff or rigid neck, photophobia, nausea and vomiting.

B. REPORTING CRITERIA: Clinical diagnosis or laboratory confirmation.

C. LABORATORY CRITERIA FOR CONFIRMATION:
Isolation and identification of a bacterial pathogen from cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)

D. WISCONSIN CASE DEFINITION: A clinically compatible illness that is laboratory confirmed or has a positive CSF culture.

II. ACTIONS REQUIRED / PREVENTION MEASURES
A. WISCONSIN DISEASE SURVEILLANCE CATEGORY II:
Report to the patient’s local health department either electronically through the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS), by mail or fax using an Acute and Communicable Disease Case Report (F-44151), or by other means within 72 hours upon recognition of a case or suspected case.

B. EPIDEMIOLOGY REPORTS REQUIRED:
- **Electronically** – Report through WEDSS, including appropriate disease-specific tabs
  OR
- **Paper Copy** – Acute and Communicable Diseases Case Report (F-44151)

C. PUBLIC HEALTH INTERVENTIONS:
In accordance with Wisconsin Administrative rule DHS 145.05, local public health should follow the methods of control recommended in the current edition of Control of Communicable Diseases Manual, edited by David L. Heymann, published by the American Public Health Association.

III. CONTACTS FOR CONSULTATION
A. LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT – REGIONAL OFFICES – TRIBAL AGENCIES:

B. BCDER / COMMUNICABLE DISEASE EPIDEMIOLOGY SECTION: (608) 267-9003

C. WISCONSIN STATE LABORATORY OF HYGIENE / BACTERIOLOGY: (608) 263-3421

IV. RELATED REFERENCES