Adult Syphilis Surveillance Case Definitions[§] when Symptomatic



START

Current¹ clinician-observed chancre?

Yes No Clinician-observed signs clinically compatible with secondary syphilis, Clinician-observed signs clinically compatible with secondary syphilis, such as: rash, mucous patches, condylomata lata, or alopecia? such as: rash, mucous patches, condylomata lata, or alopecia? No Yes Yes No Treponema pallidum directly detected Not a surveillance case of acquired syphilis. Treponema pallidum directly (darkfield microscopy or polymerase chain detected (darkfield microscopy or Refer to Adult Syphilis Staging and Treatment reaction)? polymerase chain reaction)? when Asymptomatic. Yes No No Yes **Primary Syphilis** Reactive non-Secondary Reactive non-(Confirmed) treponemal (VDRL or **Syphilis** Not a surveillance case treponemal No RPR) **OR** reactive (Confirmed) (VDRL or RPR) of acquired syphilis. treponemal (e.g., EIA, **AND** reactive TP-PA) test results? treponemal (e.g., Secondary Syphilis Yes EIA, TP-PA) test (Probable) results? Yes No **Primary Syphilis** (Probable) Not a surveillance case of acquired syphilis.

- Surveillance case definitions enable public health officials to classify and count cases consistently across reporting jurisdictions. Surveillance case definitions are not intended to be used by healthcare providers for making a clinical diagnosis or determining how to meet the individual health needs of a patient.
- Current refers to the anchoring date of the original diagnosis, such as at the time of original clinical diagnosis or reactive screening test. Neurologic, ocular, and otic manifestations of syphilis can occur at any stage.

Individuals with reactive syphilis results should be considered infected unless an adequate treatment history is clearly documented in medical records and sequential serologic antibody titers have decreased as recommended for the syphilis stage.

Adult Syphilis Surveillance Case Definitions[§] when Asymptomatic



