

## CASE DEFINITION FOR CHILDHOOD LYME DISEASE

Report a patient less than 16 years of age with Lyme disease, meeting the following criteria:

**Confirmed Lyme disease** – Patient fulfills one of two conditions:

1. Clinical evidence of illness with laboratory confirmation
  - a. isolation of *Borrelia burgdorferi* from an appropriate clinical specimen
  - OR
  - b. detection of *B burgdorferi* DNA by PCR in appropriate tissues
2. Clinical evidence of illness with a history of residence in, or visit to, an endemic area\* and with laboratory evidence of infection
  - positive serologic test using the two-tiered serological approach (i.e., ELISA followed by Western blot assays)

**Probable Lyme disease** – Patient fulfills one of two conditions:

1. Clinical evidence of illness without a history of residence in, or visit to, an endemic area\* and with laboratory evidence of infection
  - positive serologic test using the two-tiered serological approach (i.e., ELISA followed by Western blot assays)
2. Clinician-observed erythema migrans without laboratory evidence but with history of residence in, or visit to, an endemic area\*

### Exclusion criteria

Confirmation of infection with a non-tick-borne disease, which fully explains symptoms. Cases diagnosed by methods and/or laboratories not recommended by the Public Health Agency of Canada or the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will be excluded.

\* An endemic area is defined as a locality in which reproducing populations of *Ixodes scapularis* or *Ixodes pacificus* tick vectors are present and transmission of *B burgdorferi* occurs at the location.