COUNTY OF RIVERSDIE • COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

CASE DEFINITION FOR WEST NILE VIRUS (WNV)

CONFIRMED CASE:

A confirmed case of WN encephalitis is defined as a febrile illness associated with neurologic manifestations ranging from headache to aseptic meningitis or encephalitis, plus at least one of the following:

- Isolation of WN virus from, or demonstration of WN viral antigen or genomic sequences in tissue, blood, CSF, or other body fluid;
- Demonstration of IgM antibody to WN virus in CSF by IgM-capture EIA;
- A ≥4 fold serial change in plaque-reduction neutralizing (PRNT) antibody titer to WN virus in paired, appropriately time serum or CSF samples;
- Demonstration of both, WN virus-specific IgM (by EAI) or IgG (Screened by EIA or HI and confirmed by PRNT), antibody in a single serum specimen.

PROBABLE CASE:

A probable case is defined as a compatible illness (as above) that does not meet any of the above laboratory criteria, plus at least one of the following:

- Demonstration of serum IgM antibody against WN virus (by EIA);
- Demonstration of an elevated titer of WN virus-specific IgG antibody in convalescent-phase serum (screened by EIA or HI and confirmed by PRNT).

NON-CASE:

A non-case is defined as an illness that does not meet any of the above laboratory criteria, plus:

- A negative test for IgM antibody to WN virus (by EIA) in serum or CSF collected 8-12 days after onset of illness; **AND/OR**
- A negative test for IgG antibody to WN virus (by EIA, HI or PRNT) in serum collected = 22 days after onset of illness.

For information or to report a case of WNV (cases are to be reported within one (1) day of identification) contact the Disease Control Office at:

Weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (909) 358-5107
After Hours, Holidays and Weekends (909) 782-2974

The Public Health Laboratory Director can be reached at (909) 358-5070 for questions on submission of specimens.

Reference:
Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention