



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

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November 26, 2007

Patrick J. McConnon, M.P.H.
Executive Director
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
2872 Woodcock Boulevard, Suite 303
Atlanta, Georgia 30341-4015

Dear Mr. ^{Pat}McConnon:

I am following up on my letter to you dated October 5, 2007, regarding the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) response to the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) position statements providing recommended changes in current case definitions of several conditions.

After further review, enclosed are recommend amendments to our earlier comments on three of the CSTE position statements:

- 07-ID-03, Revision of the National Surveillance Case Definition for Ehrlichiosis (Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis)
- 07-ID-04, Revision of the Surveillance Case Definition for Q fever
- 07-ID-05, Revision of the Surveillance Case Definition for Rocky Mountain spotted fever

I appreciate the opportunity to update our response to CSTE's position statements. We look forward to continued collaboration with CSTE regarding these important zoonotic diseases and other public health issues of mutual concern.

Sincerely,

Mitchell L. Cohen, M.D.
Director, Coordinating Center for
Infectious Diseases

**The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Revised Comments
Regarding the
2007 Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists'
Position Statements 07-ID-03, 07-ID-04, and 07-ID-05**

The current comments replace those previously provided by CDC on October 5, 2007 for the following CSTE Position Statements:

CSTE Position Statement 07-ID-03

Title: Revision of the National Surveillance Case Definition for Ehrlichiosis (Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis)

CSTE recommends revision of the national surveillance case definition for Ehrlichiosis.

New CDC Comments: CDC concurs with and fully supports the CSTE recommendation.

CSTE Position Statement 07-ID-04

Title: Revision of the National Surveillance Case Definition for Q fever

CSTE recommends revision of the national surveillance case definition for Q fever.

New CDC Comments: CDC concurs with and fully supports the CSTE recommendation. If CSTE desires a case definition consistent with other rickettsial diseases, they may consider adding a suspect case definition that is similar to that for Rocky Mountain spotted fever and ehrlichiosis (i.e. laboratory evidence in the absence of clinical information).

CSTE Position Statement 07-ID-05

Title: Revision of the National Surveillance Case Definition for Rocky Mountain spotted fever

CSTE recommends revision of the national surveillance case definition for Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

New CDC Comments: CDC concurs with and fully supports the CSTE recommendation.