

Rules for All Investigations

- Open investigation in ALNBS, and gather accurate and timely data (recognize disease)
- Review case definition and Position Statement (P.S) tables
- Educate the healthcare provider and then the patient (mitigate and prevent)
- Call provider for all investigations
- Call patient if they are possibly a case (i.e., not ruled out by information from the medical provider)
- Enter data in fields provided. Avoid entering data in General Comments section. General Comment section should be used to include information not provided elsewhere.
- Ask all exposure and risk behavior questions in the ALNBS investigation form. As public health professionals we may encounter unpleasant responses; however we must still ask the questions.
- Complete all fields needed to determine case classification. Enter unknown or N/A as applicable to indicate you asked the questions.
- For confirmed cases, close investigations when you have information to make the classification. Additional labs can be associated after the case is closed.
- Jurisdiction will be determined by <http://www.mapquest.com/>, enter address and MapQuest will give you the county.

When to open an investigation

- Open investigation for all potential cases, which include Morbidity Reports received from a disease reporter.
- Open investigation any time a phone call is made to find out more about the patient, call=investigation. Investigations need to be opened to capture the work performed.

When and who to educate

- Educate the provider about recommendations to determine the case status (i.e, test ordered, symptoms, and exposure) and control measures; education case/contacts, exclusions, immunization, prophylaxis, identification of exposed, and likely source.
- Educate patient only if they are a confirmed, suspect, or probable case
 - Explain how disease is transmitted
 - Based on risk factors identified:
 - Provide risk-specific education for prevention of additional cases
 - Encourage testing and vaccination for close contacts