Key reference documents

- Guidelines for prevention and control of chikungunya fever (New Delhi: WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia; 2009).

Case definitions

WHO suggested outbreak case definition

**Acute clinical case:**
- clinical criteria: fever > 38.5°C and joint pain (usually incapacitating)
- epidemiological criterion: resident or visitor in areas with local transmission of chikungunya on the last 15 days (suspect case for epidemiological surveillance); or
- laboratory criterion: confirmation by laboratory – polymerase chain reaction (PCR), serology or viral culture (confirmed case for epidemiological surveillance).

**Atypical case:**
- clinical case of laboratory-confirmed chikungunya accompanied by other manifestations: neurological, cardiovascular, dermatological, ophthalmological, hepatic, renal, respiratory or haematological, among others.

**Severe acute case:**
- clinical case of laboratory-confirmed chikungunya presenting dysfunction of at least one organ or system that threatens life and requires hospitalization.

**Suspected chronic case:**
- person with previous clinical diagnosis of chikungunya after 12 weeks of the onset of the symptoms presenting with at least one of the following articular manifestation: pain, rigidity or oedema, continuously or recurrently.

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1 Weekly Epidemiological Record (WER), 14 August 2015, vol. 90, 33 (pp. 409–420).
2 Usually accompanied by exanthema, myalgia, back pain, headache and occasionally, vomiting and diarrhea (in paediatric age group).
3 In children < 3 years of age, joint pain is expressed as inconsolable crying, irritability and rejection to mobilization and/or walking.
Confirmed chronic case:

- every chronic case with a positive chikungunya laboratory test.

WHO surveillance case definition

- Technical guidelines for integrated disease surveillance and response in the African Region (Brazzaville: WHO Regional Office for Africa and Atlanta: United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2010 (p. 263)).

Data collection tools

- Case investigation form: Not available.
- Line list: Not available.
- Electronic tools: Not available.

Laboratory confirmation

- Tool for the diagnosis and care of patients with suspected arboviral diseases (Washington (DC): Pan American Health Organization; 2017 (Chapter 7, page 43)).
- Preparedness and response for chikungunya virus: introduction in the Americas (Washington (DC): Pan American Health Organization; 2011 (Chapter 4, page 22)).
- Guidelines for prevention and control of chikungunya fever (New Delhi: WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia; 2009 (chapter 4, page 13)).

Response tools and resources

- Tool for the diagnosis and care of patients with suspected arboviral diseases (Washington (DC): Pan American Health Organization; 2017)
- Guidelines on clinical management of chikungunya fever (New Delhi: WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia; 2008).

Other resources