

Malaria

Disease Case Classification	
Confirmed Case	<p>Laboratory confirmation of infection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstration of the parasite in a blood smear/film (thick and thin) <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Some other accepted laboratory test, such as antigen or genome (PCR) detection. Malaria cases are subdivided into the following categories: <p>a) Induced: a confirmed case of malaria acquired through a blood transfusion from a donor in whom the parasite has been confirmed.</p> <p>b) Autochthonous: a confirmed case of malaria acquired by mosquito transmission within Canada.</p> <p>c) Imported: a confirmed case of malaria acquired outside Canada.</p> <p>d) Congenital, confirmed: a confirmed case of malaria in an infant < 3 months old, who has not left Canada since birth, with confirmation of the presence of the parasite in the mother.</p> <p>Congenital, probable: a confirmed case of malaria in an infant < 3 months old who has not left Canada since birth, but without demonstration of the presence of the parasite in the mother.</p>
Probable Case	
National Surveillance	Confirmed Cases
Provincial Surveillance	Confirmed Cases
Type of Surveillance	Case-by-Case
Comments	Clinical illness: signs and symptoms are variable; however, most patients experience fever. In addition to fever, common associated symptoms include headache, back pain, chills, sweats, myalgia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and cough. Untreated <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> infection can lead to coma, renal failure, pulmonary edema, and death.
Date of Development	June 2003

NOTES:

1. A case is counted if it is the individual's first attack of malaria in Canada, regardless of whether or not she/he has experienced previous attacks of malaria outside the country.
2. A subsequent attack in the same person caused by a different *Plasmodium* species is counted as an additional case.
3. A repeat attack by the same species is not counted as a new case unless the person has traveled to a malaria-endemic area since the previous attack.