



Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program

**2018 SURVEILLANCE FOR HEALTHCARE ACQUIRED CEREBROSPINAL FLUID SHUNT ASSOCIATED  
INFECTIONS**

**FINAL  
November 29, 2017**

**Working Group:** Joanne Langley (Chair), Marie-Astrid Lefebvre, John Conly, Joanne Embree, Bonita Lee, Jeannette Comeau, Patricia Bedard (IPAC), K. Amaratunga (PHAC) and Robyn Mitchell (PHAC)

**Contact:**

**Public Health Agency of Canada**

CNISP Surveillance Officer

Fax: 613-946-0678

E-mail: [cnisp.pcsin@phac-aspc.gc.ca](mailto:cnisp.pcsin@phac-aspc.gc.ca)

Mail: Public Health Agency of Canada

130 Colonnade Road, PL6504B

Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

# 2018 SURVEILLANCE FOR HEALTHCARE ACQUIRED CEREBROSPINAL FLUID SHUNT ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS

## I. OBJECTIVES

1. To determine the incidence of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) shunt infections in patients of all ages admitted to Canadian hospitals participating in the CNISP.
2. To describe the microbiology and epidemiology of CSF shunt infections in all patients with:
  - a. New shunts and/or;
  - b. Revisions to an existing internalized shunt.

## II. METHODOLOGY

### A. Surveillance design

Ongoing, prospective surveillance for infections following placement of an internalized CSF shunt or revision or other surgical manipulation of an existing shunt.

### B. Inclusion & exclusion criteria

Eligible CNISP hospitals are those able to perform year-round surveillance for CSF shunt-associated infections, and are able to document the number of surgical placements and revisions of shunts.

Patient inclusion criteria

- Person of any age admitted to a CNISP hospital that undergoes placement or revision of a CSF shunting device.
- Infection occurs within one year of surgery.

Patient exclusion criteria:

- Patients with transcutaneous or external shunting devices or non-shunting devices (e.g. Ommaya reservoir).
- Patients whose CSF was culture positive (bacterial or fungal) at the time of placement of the shunt.
- Infections in which the device associated with the positive organism was not placed at the hospital where the infection was identified, i.e. the hospital should not report the infection.

### C. Surveillance period

Infections that develop within 12 months of the shunt procedure will be included.

#### **D. Numerator data**

A CSF shunt infection is defined as:

An internalized CSF shunting device is in place **AND** a bacterial or fungal pathogen(s) is identified from the cerebrospinal fluid **AND** is associated with at least **ONE** of the following:

- a) fever (temperature  $\geq 38^{\circ}$  C),  
**OR**
- b) neurological signs or symptoms,  
**OR**
- c) abdominal signs or symptoms,  
**OR**
- d) signs or symptoms of shunt malfunction or obstruction

The date of the infection is assigned to the date of procedure.

#### **Relapse vs. new infection**

Re-infection of a shunt is defined as an infectious episode occurring after diagnosis of a CSF shunt infection and/or completion of antibiotic therapy, with a CSF bacterial or fungal isolate *different* from the previous infection. Such a patient would be eligible to be counted as a new CSF shunt-associated infection.

Relapse of a shunt infection is an infectious episode occurring within 1 month of completion of therapy with an isolate of the same genus. This event is NOT eligible to be counted as a new CSF shunt-associated infection.

#### **E. Denominator data**

The denominator for the shunt infection rate is the number of shunt surgeries at the site.

Each participating facility will submit (Appendix C):

- The number of surgical placements for new CSF shunts for pediatric (< 18 years) and adult ( $\geq$  18 years) cases.
- The number of surgical revisions to existing CSF shunts for pediatric (< 18 years) and adult ( $\geq$  18 years) cases.

#### **F. Data collection and reporting**

Patients with a CSF shunt-associated infection will be identified through review of positive CSF organisms from the microbiology laboratory. Once a positive organism is identified, a chart (health record) review will be conducted to determine if the device associated with that organism was placed at the hospital where the infection was identified and that the surgery occurred in the previous 12 months.

Each time an infection is identified a patient questionnaire (Appendix A) will be completed. All completed forms will be emailed to CNISP at the email address below. Please keep copies for your records. If it is not possible to email data, please submit by fax or hard copy mail and notify CNISP by email that the forms have been sent by this route.

**Please submit data to:**

E-mail: [cnisp.pcsin@phac-aspc.gc.ca](mailto:cnisp.pcsin@phac-aspc.gc.ca)

**Public Health Agency of Canada**

CNISP Surveillance Officer

Fax: 613-946-0678

Mail: Public Health Agency of Canada

130 Colonnade Road, PL6504B

Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9



Appendix A – 2018 CSF shunt patient questionnaire

1. CHEC Site: _____		2. Unique Patient ID: _____ 18 _____ <small>(CHEC site #) (year) (case number)</small>	
3. Date of birth	____/____/____ <small>(dd/mmm/yyyy)</small>	OR	Age _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Years <input type="checkbox"/> Months <input type="checkbox"/> Days
4. Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female	
5. Pathogen(s) isolated from CSF (please check all that apply):			
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Alpha hemolytic Streptococcus</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Propionibacterium species</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Coagulase negative Staphylococcus spp</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Haemophilus influenza type B</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Escherichia coli</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Corynebacterium species</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> MSSA	<input type="checkbox"/> MRSA
6a. Method of identification <input type="checkbox"/> Culture <input type="checkbox"/> Molecular method – see 6b.			
6b. Please specify the type of molecular method: _____			
7. Date of CSF shunt procedure ____/____/____ <small>(dd/mmm/yyyy)</small>			
8. Date organism was obtained from CSF ____/____/____ <small>(dd/mmm/yyyy)</small>			
9. The shunt surgery was: (please check <b>one</b> the following):			
<input type="checkbox"/> revision of an existing internal shunt			
<input type="checkbox"/> placement of entirely new shunt			
10. Type of CSF shunt inserted was: (please check <b>one</b> the following):			
<input type="checkbox"/> VP (ventriculoperitoneal) <input type="checkbox"/> LP (lumbo-peritoneal)			
<input type="checkbox"/> VA (ventriculoatrial) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____			

11. Please indicate the organism(s) AND their susceptibility/resistance for any of the following antimicrobials/anti-fungals listed below: (R for resistant, S for susceptible, I for intermediate)

Please specify the organism:	Organism 1: _____	Organism 2: _____
Amikacin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Amphotericin B	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Ampicillin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Caspofungin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Cefazolin (Ancef)	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Cephalexin (Keflex)	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Cefepime	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Cefotaxime	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Ceftriaxone	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Cefuroxime	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Ciprofloxacin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Clindamycin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Cloxacillin / Oxacillin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Ertapenem	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Fluconazole	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Gentamicin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Imipenem	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Levofloxacin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Linezolid	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Meropenem	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Micafungin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Moxifloxacin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Penicillin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Piperacillin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Piperacillin-tazobactam	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Rifampin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Ticarcillin-clavulanic acid	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Trimetoprim-sulfamethoxazole	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Tobramycin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Vancomycin	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Voriconazole	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S
Other, specify: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> S

## **SURVEILLANCE FOR HEALTHCARE ACQUIRED CEREBROSPINAL FLUID SHUNT ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS**

### **Appendix B - Instructions on Completing Patient Questionnaire (Appendix A)**

#### **Q1. CHEC site**

This will be the **3-character** alphanumeric number assigned to your institution. It will always begin with the two digit number assigned to your CHEC member e.g., 07, 15, and a letter assigned by the CHEC member for that specific institution e.g., A, B, C, etc. The CHEC Site # for each institution should always be the same for all the CHEC/CNISP surveillance projects and will always have all three alphanumeric digits reported as the CHEC Site #, e.g., 07A, 15A.

#### **Q2. Unique patient identifier**

This number should never be longer than 8 characters. The 8 characters should consist of the 3 character CHEC site # (e.g., 09A), the surveillance year (e.g., 18), and a consecutive number starting at 001 and continuing on with each additional case. An example of the first case in an Institution would be 09A18001. An example of the thirty-fifth case would be 09A18035, and so on. Use the same number with a lower case letter at the end if >1 SSI occurs following the same surgery (e.g., 07A18001a).

Note: Please do not include dashes as separators in between the sets of characters

#### **Q3. Date of birth (DOB)**

Please enter Day (##), Month (May) and Year (1947) in this order. If the date of birth is not available please enter the patient's age (in years, months or days).

#### **Q4. Gender**

Check male or female gender as appropriate.

#### **Q5. Pathogen(s) isolated**

Please list all microorganisms isolated from the CSF as reported by the laboratory. If 'other' pathogen is checked, please specify the organism in the text field.

Note: MSSA = methicillin sensitive Staphylococcus aureus and MRSA = methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus.

#### **Q6a. Method of identification**

Please indicate if the organism was identified by culture or a molecular method.

**Q6b. Molecular method**

If identified by molecular method, please indicate the method used (e.g. PCR).

**Q7. Date of CSF shunt procedure**

Please enter Day (##), Month (May) and Year (2018) in this order.

**Q8. Date positive CSF organism was obtained**

Please enter the date the positive CSF organism was obtained Day (##), Month (May) and Year (2018).

**Q9. Type of shunt surgery**

Please indicate whether the surgery was for the revision of an existing internal shunt or the placement of an entirely new shunt. If an existing shunt is completely removed and a new device is placed at the same time, please check placement of a new shunt. Please check only ONE box.

**Q10. Type of CSF shunt inserted**

Please indicate the type of CSF shunt system inserted (i.e. ventriculoperitoneal, ventriculoatrial, lumbo-peritoneal shunt or other). If other, please specify in the text field.

**Q11. Antibigram results**

Please indicate the organism(s) AND their susceptibility/resistance to the antibiotics tested (S = Susceptible, I = Intermediate or R = Resistant).





**Appendix C – 2018 CSF shunt denominator form**

CHEC #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Surveillance period: January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018**

Please provide the following number of surgical placements for the surveillance period year

	< 18 years of age	≥ 18 years of age	Total
Number of surgical placements of <u>new</u> CSF shunts			
Number of surgical <u>revisions</u> to existing CSF shunts placements			
<b>Total</b>			

For 2018, were there zero (0) cases reported for your site?  Yes  No

**Please send your completed form by March 31, 2019 by e-mail to:**

**Public Health Agency of Canada**  
CNISP Surveillance Officer  
Fax : 613-946-0678  
E-mail: [cnisp.pcsin@phac-aspc.gc.ca](mailto:cnisp.pcsin@phac-aspc.gc.ca)  
Mail: Public Health Agency of Canada  
130 Colonnade Road, PL6504B  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

**Appendix D – CNISP CSF shunt-associated infection record**

**Note:** This is a resource/tool for sites to assist with record keeping. It is not a requirement for sites to use this table. Please feel free to modify as needed. Please do **NOT** send to CNISP.

Patient unique identifier	Gender (M/F)	Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	Procedure Date (DD/MM/YYYY)	Date positive organism (DD/MM/YYYY)	Date patient questionnaire sent to CNISP	Recorder initials
.....18..... CHEC# case#	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female					
.....18..... CHEC# case#	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female					
.....18..... CHEC# case#	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female					
.....18..... CHEC# case#	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female					
.....18..... CHEC# case#	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female					
.....18..... CHEC# case#	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female					
.....18..... CHEC# case#	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female					
.....18..... CHEC# case#	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female					
.....18..... CHEC# case#	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female					
.....18..... CHEC# case#	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female					

## **Revision history**

- November 2017 - Question regarding method of identification (e.g. culture or molecular) was added
- Option to indicate zero cases reported on denominator form
  - Included a tool to assist sites with record keeping (Appendix D)