

Investigation Initiation Date



Infectious Disease
Epidemiology &
Prevention Division

September 2023

Definition

The Investigation Initiation Date is the date an investigator first took action to gather information for the investigation via one or more of the following methods:

- First contact attempt to the patient (phone call, letter, email, etc).
- First contact attempt to the treating facility or reporting facility
- Medical record request or review

Why is this Collected?

This variable will be used in NBS to provide a standardized means of measuring the amount of time it takes for counties to initiate a public health investigation.

Why is this Important?

- Implementation of this variable will allow us to accurately measure the Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Prevention key performance indicator (KPI), "*Number of counties that initiated a public health investigation within 24 hours for 95% of the immediately reportable conditions reported to them and within two business days for 85% of non-immediately reportable conditions reported to them*".
- This will support the goal of [Health First Indiana](#) to ensure that every Hoosier has access to the core public health services that allow them to achieve their optimal health and well-being.

Tips for Completion

- Investigation Initiation Date should be completed by the investigator as soon as possible.
- This should be completed for all applicable condition investigations (see Table), regardless of investigation by LHD or IDOH staff.
- This is a distinct field, different from Investigation Start Date and Date Assigned to Investigation.
- Some investigations may include additional fields related to investigation status or contact attempts. Please continue to complete all relevant fields in each investigation.

Examples

- A public health nurse is assigned a Hepatitis A investigation on Aug. 1 and calls the treating facility on Aug. 2 to get additional details about the patient on Aug. 3. Investigation Initiation Date would be **Aug. 2**.
- An IDOH investigator is assigned a botulism case and utilizes Careweb to access medical records on Nov. 15 before leaving a voicemail for the patient on Nov. 17. Investigation Initiation Date would be **Nov. 15**.

Current Applicable Conditions*

Condition Name	Name in NBS
Botulism	Botulism, foodborne Botulism, infant Botulism, other-unspecified Botulism, wound
Francisella Tularensis	Tularemia
<i>Escherichia coli</i> (<i>E.coli</i>) infection (Shiga toxin-producing <i>E. coli</i> (STEC))	Shiga toxin-producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> (STEC)
Hepatitis, Type A	Hepatitis A, acute
Measles	Measles (Rubeola)
Meningococcal disease	<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> , invasive (Mening. Disease)
Salmonellosis, non-typhoidal	Salmonellosis, excluding <i>S. typhi</i> and <i>S. paratyphi</i>
Arboviral Disease, domestic	West Nile Virus, Neuroinvasive/ Non-neuroinvasive St. Louis Encephalitis Neuroinvasive/ Non-neuroinvasive Eastern Equine Encephalitis, Neuroinvasive/ Non-neuroinvasive Western Equine Encephalitis, Neuroinvasive/ Non-neuroinvasive California Serogroup Virus Diseases Lacrosse Virus, Neuroinvasive/ Non-neuroinvasive Jamestown Canyon Virus, Neuroinvasive/ Non-neuroinvasive Powassan Virus, Neuroinvasive/ Non-neuroinvasive
Arboviral Disease, imported	Chikungunya Virus Disease Dengue Virus, Dengue Severe, Dengue-like illness Zika Virus Disease, Congenital/Non-Congenital Zika Virus Infection, Congenital/Non-Congenital
Candida Auris	<i>Candida auris</i> , colonized

* This variable will be gradually added to investigations for all conditions.