

Microbiologists and other laboratory workers are positioned to identify, characterise and report on unusual microbiological findings, related to:

## Received samples:

- **Frequency**
  - e.g., unexpected, unexplained, increase in the number of samples; for instance, many stool samples received with similar analytical request
- **Circumstances of occurrence**
  - e.g., similar requests for analysis of samples from patients coming from various geographical locations within limited time frame
- **Clinical description**
  - e.g., samples from several patients with unclear but similar clinical picture within limited time frame

## Test results:

- Unexpected number of the same:
  - species/subspecies
  - strain type/subtype
  - antimicrobial resistance pattern
- Failure or uncertainty in diagnostics
  - unexpected failure in antimicrobial susceptibility testing

## Example of public health event reporting by a European laboratory:

A central laboratory identified 6 strains of *Salmonella bovis*morbificans, a rare serotype in this country. Based on this notification, a multidisciplinary outbreak investigation was conducted. Through international collaboration it was discovered that the 6 strains were identical to a strain causing an outbreak in a neighbouring country earlier the same year.

### Contact Information:

Contact the Public Health Authority  
**24 hours a day, 7 days a week** at:  
Phone: **123-456-7890**  
Email: [report@report.com](mailto:report@report.com)

**When in doubt, report!**

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Ministry of Health

Public Health  
Institute

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**LOGOS:**  
Medical  
Association A

Medical  
Association B

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