

Table S1 Case definitions

Condition	Case definition
Encephalitis ^a	Encephalopathy (altered mental function or change in personality) for >24 hours with no other cause identified and at least two of the following: 1. $\geq 5 \times 10^6$ /L leucocytes (WBC) in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) 2. new onset of seizures, 3. new onset of focal neurology, 4. documented fever $>38^\circ\text{C}$ before or within 24 hours after hospitalisation, 5. EEG findings suggestive of encephalitis and/or 6. MRI/CT findings suggestive of encephalitis
Aseptic meningitis (ASM)	1. Clinical signs of meningitis (headache, neck stiffness, photophobia and/or fever), 2. $\geq 5 \times 10^6$ /L leucocytes in CSF and 3. culture negative CSF
Acute bacterial meningitis (ABM)	1. Clinical signs of meningitis (as criteria 1 for ASM), 2. $\geq 5 \times 10^6$ /L leucocytes in CSF and 3. detected bacteria in CSF, either by culture or PCR
Viral meningitis (VM)	1. As aseptic meningitis, criteria 1 and 2 and 2. virus detected by PCR in CSF

^abased on the Consortium Definition published in 2013 by Venkatesan et al; CID 2013:57