



Reporting Criteria for Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS)

(1) Definition

Congenital abnormalities/disorders caused by prenatal rubella infection

(2) Clinical manifestations

The occurrence of congenital abnormalities/disorders is closely linked to the gestation week. It is most frequent among those primary infected within 12 weeks of gestation, and mostly absent among infections later than 20 weeks. Cataract, congenital heart failure and hearing loss constitute the triad of CRS. Other signs/symptoms include congenital glaucoma, pigmentary retinopathy, purpura, splenomegaly, microcephalus, mental retardation, meningoencephalitis, bone radiolucencies on X-ray, jaundice that appears within 24 hours after birth.

(3) Reporting criteria

a) “Patients (confirmed cases)”

In compliance with Article 12 paragraph 1 of the Infectious Diseases Control Law, if a physician has examined a patient with clinical signs and symptoms as described in (2), suspected CRS, and considered the patient meets the requirements for the notification as described in (4), the physician shall notify the case within 7 days.

b) “Deceased”

In compliance with Article 12 paragraph 1 of the Infectious Diseases Control Law, if a physician has examined a deceased person with clinical signs and symptoms as described in (2), suspected CRS, and considered that the patient meets the requirements for the notification as described in (4), the physician shall notify the case within 7 days.

(4) Notification criteria [should meet both a) and b)]

a) Clinical criteria for notification

- i) Typical CRS: “at least 2 of the signs/symptoms listed in (1)” or “one sign/symptom in (1) and at least one sign/symptom in (2)”
- ii) Others: “at least 1 sign/symptom from either (1) or (2)”

(1) Cataract or congenital glaucoma, congenital heart failure, hearing loss, pigmentary retinopathy
(2) Purpura, splenomegaly, microcephalus, mental retardation, meningoencephalitis, bone radiolucencies on X-ray, jaundice within 24 hours after birth

b) Laboratory criteria for notification

- i) Positive for at least one item below and where rubella infection after birth can be excluded

Laboratory method	Specimen
Detection of pathogens by isolation and identification	Throat swab, blood, cerebrospinal fluid, urine
Direct detection of the pathogen’s genome by PCR	
Detection of IgM	Serum
Persistence of HI antibody titer higher than expected from the maternal antibody (decrease in HI antibody titer per month is less than by 1/2)	