CDC DOCUMENTATION FOR THE GENERIC CLEARANCE OF EMERGENCY EPIDEMIC INVESTIGATION DATA COLLECTIONS (0920-1011)

GenIC No.:	0920-1011
EPI AID No. (if applicable):	
Requesting entity (e.g., jurisdiction)	WA
Title of Investigation:	*Increased rates of Cladophialophora bantiana cases across the United States, 2023-present.*
Purpose of Investigation: (Use as much space as necessary)	As of September 21, 2026, CDC has worked with a molecular diagnostic reference laboratory to identify a 4-fold increase of *Cladophialophora bantiana*. This fungus predominantly causes brain abscesses, has mortality rates of >50%, and typically causes disease in seemingly healthy individuals. The specimens positive for *C. bantiana* have been submitted from laboratories in 21 states and D.C., suggesting a national increase rather than a localized outbreak. There is urgent need for a coordinated CDC response to characterize these infections from a national perspective and to identify commonalities in presentation or exposures and appropriate management for the purposes of identifying and mitigating any immediate threats to patients associated with *C. bantiana* infections.
Duration of Data Collection	
Date Began:	10/1/2026
Date Ended:	1/1/2027
Lead Investigator	
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Complete the following for <u>each</u> instrument used during the investigation.

Data Collection Instrument 1

Name of Data Collection Instrument: Cladophialophora bantiana case report form

Type of Respondent

[] General Public
[x] Healthcare staff
[] Laboratory staff
[] Patients
[ ] Restaurant staff

[x] Other: [describe] Public Health Departments

Data Collection Methods (check all that apply)

[x] Epidemiologic Study (indicate which type(s) below)

[x] Descriptive Study (describe): A case series approach will be employed, which will: 1) describe the nature of *C. bantiana* infections and 2) identify risk factors, diagnostic practices, and treatment outcomes.

[ ] Cross-sectional Study (describe):

[ ] Cohort Study (describe):

[ ] Case-Control Study (describe):

[ ] Other (describe):

[] Environmental Assessment (describe):

[ ] Laboratory Testing (describe):

[ ] Other (describe):

Data Collection Mode (check all that apply)

[ ] Survey Mode (indicate which mode(s) below):

[ ] Face-to-face Interview (describe):

[x] Telephone Interview (describe): Patients or family members of the deceased will complete telephone interview administered by health department staff, providers, or CDC staff.

[x] Self-administered Paper-and-Pencil Questionnaire (describe): Health department staff or treating healthcare providers can print out the case report form on paper.

[x] Self-administered Internet Questionnaire (describe): Health department staff or treating provider will use a secure REDCap database to fill out the case report form.

[ ] Other (describe):

[x] Medical Record Abstraction (describe): Case report form completion will necessitate medical record review by treating provider, or health department proxy, to record key clinical information (e.g., past medical history, diagnostics, treatments used, exposures).

[ ] Biological Specimen Sample

[ ] Environmental Sample:

[ ] Other (describe):

Response Rate (if applicable)

Total No. Responded (A):	N/A
Total No. Sampled/Eligible to Respond (B):	N/A
Response Rate (A/B):	N/A

(Additional Data Collection Instrument sections may be added if necessary.)

Complete the following burden table. Each data collection instrument should be included as a separate row.

Burden Table

The average time to complete the case report form is 30 minutes, including time for reviewing instructions, gathering needed information, and completing the instrument through the following modes of data collection:

- Interview: Patients or family members of the deceased will complete telephone interview administered by health department staff, providers, or CDC staff.
- Self-administered Paper-and-Pencil or Self-administered Internet Questionnaire: Self-administered Internet Questionnaire: Health department staff or treating provider will use a secure REDCap database to fill out the case report form.
- Medical Record Abstraction: Case report form completion will necessitate medical record review by treating provider, or health department proxy, to record key clinical information (e.g., past medical history, diagnostics, treatments used, exposures).

Note: Multiple rows indicative of expected collaboration between jurisdiction health departments and reporting healthcare providers to collect and enter data.

Data Collection Instrument Name	Type of Respondent	No. Respondents (A)	No. Responses per Respondent (B)	Burden per Response in Minutes (C)	Total Burden (in hours; A x B x C)	Total Cost Burden	Wage Rate Multiplier	Fully Loaded Respondent Cost
Cladophialophora bantiana case report form	Public health departments	50	3	30 min	75	$51.61 hourly	x 2	$7,741.50
Cladophialophora bantiana case report form	Healthcare providers	100	2	30 min	100	$51.61 hourly	x 2	$10,322.00
					175			$18,063.50

The fully loaded cost burden is $18,063.50. The burden costs were updated using average hourly rate for Life Scientists (19-1000) as provided here: Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics. A wage rate multiplier was added to give the fully loaded cost burden.