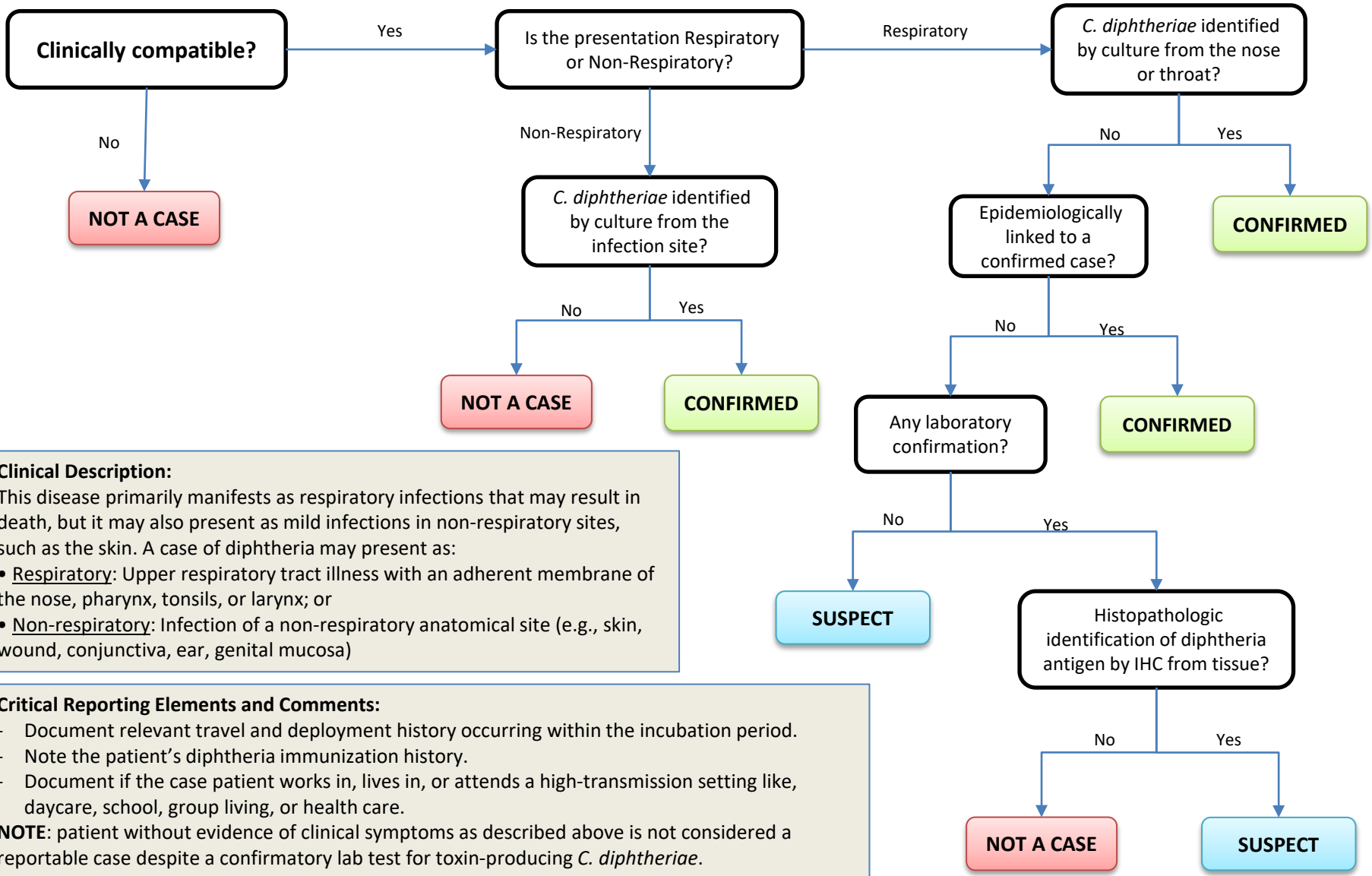


Diphtheria



Clinical Description:
 This disease primarily manifests as respiratory infections that may result in death, but it may also present as mild infections in non-respiratory sites, such as the skin. A case of diphtheria may present as:

- Respiratory: Upper respiratory tract illness with an adherent membrane of the nose, pharynx, tonsils, or larynx; or
- Non-respiratory: Infection of a non-respiratory anatomical site (e.g., skin, wound, conjunctiva, ear, genital mucosa)

Critical Reporting Elements and Comments:

- Document relevant travel and deployment history occurring within the incubation period.
- Note the patient’s diphtheria immunization history.
- Document if the case patient works in, lives in, or attends a high-transmission setting like, daycare, school, group living, or health care.

NOTE: patient without evidence of clinical symptoms as described above is not considered a reportable case despite a confirmatory lab test for toxin-producing *C. diphtheriae*.