Flow chart to assist in assessment of seafood-related illness by symptoms and foods

What food did case have exposure to?

Fish

Did case experience flushing and sweating?

Yes

Further consultation required

No

Did case experience neurological symptoms such as difficulty distinguishing hot and cold?

Yes

Possible Ciguatera

No

Did case have allergy/intolerance to fish?

Yes

Possible Scombroid

No

Shellfish

Did case have neurologic symptoms?

Yes

Was shellfish cooked?

Yes

Possible DSP

No

Did case experience memory loss after gastrointestinal symptoms?

Yes

Possible ASP

No

Did case experience tingling in lips, face and/or extremities?

Yes

Possible PSP

No

Further consultation required

Possible Noro OR Vibrio

Report all cases to BCCDC Enteric Epi (ezvbepi@bccdc.ca, fax-604-707-2516) and complete human seafood illness-case report form or Vibrio report form. Consider inspection of food service establishments and assessment of implicated products. If products are available for testing, collect and hold until decision with appropriate lab are made. CFIA can test for toxins, BC PHL can test for norovirus and other pathogens. If assessment is that fish or shellfish likely caused illness complete human seafood illness-case or Vibrio report form and collect tags. Send to BCCDC.