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 → Does case have allergy/intolerance to fish?
      Yes → Possible Scombroid
      No → Further consultation required
    No → Did case experience neurological symptoms such as difficulty distinguishing hot and cold?
      Yes → Possible ciguatera
      No → Did case experience further consultation required

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 and paralysis?
          Yes → Possible PSP
          No → Further consultation required

Report all cases to BCCDC (marsha.taylor@bcd.ca, fax 604.707.2516) and complete human seafood illness-case 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 is made. CFIA can test for toxins, BC PHMRI 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 CFIA.