The Brighton Collaboration is an international voluntary collaboration of scientific experts, launched in 2000. It facilitates the development, evaluation and dissemination of high-quality information about the safety of human vaccines.

The main objectives of the collaboration are:

- To raise **global awareness** of the availability of standardized case definitions and guidelines for data collection, analysis and presentation, and to educate about the benefit of and monitor their global use and to facilitate access,
- To develop single **standardized case definitions** for specific AEFIs,
- To prepare guidelines for **data collection, analysis** and **presentation** for global use,
- To develop and implement **study protocols for evaluation** of case definitions and guidelines in clinical trials and surveillance systems.

**Case definitions**

In Module 4 **AEFI surveillance: Detection and reporting** you have learnt about the use of **standard case definitions**

**Standard case definition** A common, formal definition for the health-related event under surveillance. The case definition of a health-related event can include clinical manifestations (i.e., symptoms), laboratory results, epidemiologic information (e.g., person, place, and time), and/or specified behaviors, as well as levels of certainty (e.g., confirmed/definite, probable/presumptive, or possible/suspected). The use of a standard case definition increases the specificity of reporting and improves the comparability of the health-related
event reported from different sources of data, including geographic areas, and guidelines. Without globally accepted standard case definitions for assessing AEFIs, it is difficult, if not impossible, to compare safety data across trials with any validity. Standard case definitions serve to define the levels of diagnostic certainty or specificity of the reported AEFI. They also indicate if the AEFI was diagnosed solely on clinical signs and symptoms (lower specificity) or confirmed by laboratory test (higher specificity).

Key point

The Brighton Collaboration provides globally accepted, standard case definitions for assessing AEFIs so that safety data across trials and surveillance systems can be compared.