

Table 2: Definitions of ARI episodes

First author and year of the study	Definition for ARI episode (URTI=upper respiratory tract infection, LRTI=lower respiratory tract infection)	End of an episode/start of a new episode
Samet et al. 1993 ¹⁴	<p>URTI = at least two consecutive days of at least 2 of the following symptoms: runny/blocked nose, dry cough, trouble breathing*</p> <p>LRTI = at least two consecutive days of any of the upper respiratory symptoms AND wet cough and/or wheezing being reported on at least one day</p>	at least 2 consecutive symptom-free days
Douglas et al. 1994 ¹²	ARI = at least two consecutive days of blocked nose OR hoarse throat* OR wheezy/noisy breathing OR moist cough OR dry cough OR fever	at least 3 consecutive symptom-free days
Lambert et al. 2005 ¹⁹ and 2007 ⁵	<p>ARI = at least 1 category A feature OR at least 2 category B features</p> <p>Category A features: fever, wheezing, shortness of breath*, pulmonary congestion (moist cough), medically diagnosed otitis media and/or pneumonia</p> <p>Category B features: runny nose (nasal congestion), sore throat*, cough, muscle aches*, chills, headache*, irritability*, decreased activity (lethargy/weakness)¹, vomiting</p>	at least 3 consecutive symptom-free days

	Once these requirements are fulfilled, the episode also includes previous days with single category B features (personal communication S. Lambert).	
Kusel et al. 2007 ⁶	URTI = runny/blocked nose OR dry cough LRTI = wheeze OR (cough AND rattly chest*)	at least 3 consecutive symptom-free days (personal communication P. Sly)
von Linstow et al. 2008 ²⁰	ARI = nasal discharge ² AND (cough OR fever/feels hot OR wheezing OR tachypnea* OR malaise* OR lost appetite)	at least 6 consecutive symptom-free days
Sarna et. al 2016 ²¹	URTI = nasal discharge OR dry cough OR doctor-diagnosed acute otitis media LRTI = any combination of ³ rattly breathing*, moist cough, shortness of breath*, wheeze, or doctor-diagnosed pneumonia	at least 3 consecutive symptom-free days
<p>*symptoms that were not available in the dataset and that could not be considered for the analysis of the episodes</p> <p>¹not available in the dataset, but we considered increased sleep requirement instead (similar meaning)</p> <p>²episodes with nasal discharge only were assigned as 'simple rhinitis' and were not classified as an ARI</p> <p>³one or more of these symptoms would be sufficient for a classification of LRTI (personal communication M. Sarna)</p>		