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Hepatitis C, Acute 2011 Case Definition | CDC  
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National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS)  
Explore Topics  
Search  
Search  
Clear Input  
For Everyone  
About About National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System  
What is Case Surveillance?  
Case Surveillance Modernization  
Infectious Disease Tables  
Non-Infectious Disease Data  
Technical Resource Center  
Case Surveillance in Action  
Contact Us  
View all  
Related Topics:  
NDC Application  
View All  
search  
close search  
search  
National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS)  
Menu  
Close  
search  
For Everyone  
About About National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System  
What is Case Surveillance?  
Case Surveillance Modernization  
Infectious Disease Tables  
Non-Infectious Disease Data  
Technical Resource Center  
Case Surveillance in Action  
Contact Us  
View All  
Related Topics  
NDC Application  
View All  
National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS)  
About About National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System  
What is Case Surveillance?  
Case Surveillance Modernization  
Infectious Disease Tables  
Non-Infectious Disease Data  
Technical Resource Center  
Case Surveillance in Action  
Contact Us  
View All  
April 16, 2021  
Case Definitions  
Message Mapping Guides  
Supporting Documents for Implementation  
Event Codes & Other Surveillance Resources  
Hepatitis C, Acute  
2011 Case Definition  
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2011 Case Definition  
NOTE:  
A surveillance case definition is a set of uniform criteria used to define a disease for public health surveillance. Surveillance case definitions enable public health officials to classify and count cases consistently across reporting jurisdictions. Surveillance case definitions are not intended to be used by healthcare providers for making a clinical diagnosis or determining how to meet an individual patient’s health needs.  
CSTE Position Statement(s)  
10-ID-08  
Clinical Description  
An acute illness with a discrete onset of any sign or symptom consistent with acute viral hepatitis (e.g., anorexia, abdominal discomfort, nausea, vomiting), and either a) jaundice/dark urine, or b) serum alanine aminotransferase (ALT) levels >400 IU/L.  
Laboratory Criteria For Diagnosis  
One or more of the following three criteria:  
Antibodies to hepatitis C virus (anti-HCV) screening-test-positive with a signal to cut-off ratio predictive of a true positive as determined for the particular assay as defined by CDC. (URL for the signal to cut-off ratios:  
https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/HCV/LabTesting.htm  
),  
OR  
Hepatitis C Virus Recombinant Immunoblot Assay (HCV RIBA) positive,  
OR  
Nucleic Acid Test (NAT) for HCV RNA positive (including genotype)  
AND  
, meets the following two criteria:  
Immunoglulin M antibody to hepatitis A virus (IgM anti-HAV) negative,  
AND  
IgM antibody to hepatitis B core antigen (IgM anti-HBc) negative  
Case Classification  
Confirmed  
A case that meets the clinical case definition, is laboratory confirmed, and is not known to have chronic hepatitis C.  
Related Case Definition(s)  
Hepatitis C, Acute | 2020 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Acute | 2016 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Acute | 2012 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Acute | 2007 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Acute | 2004 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Acute | 2000 Case Definition  
Back to Top  
Sources  
Print  
Share  
Facebook  
LinkedIn  
Twitter  
Syndicate  
Content Source:  
Case Definitions  
Message Mapping Guides  
Supporting Documents for Implementation  
Event Codes & Other Surveillance Resources  
National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS)  
NNDSS receives and shares case data from state, local, and territorial health departments to help public health monitor, control, and prevent serious diseases.  
View All  
About About National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System  
What is Case Surveillance?  
Case Surveillance Modernization  
Infectious Disease Tables  
Non-Infectious Disease Data  
Technical Resource Center  
Case Surveillance in Action  
Contact Us  
View All  
Sign up for Email Updates  
Contact CDC  
Organization  
Policies  
Web Policies  
Languages  
Languages  
Español  
Language Assistance  
Archive  
CDC Archive  
Public Health Publications  
Contact Us  
About CDC  
Organization  
Policies  
Web Policies  
Languages  
Languages  
Español  
Language Assistance  
Archive  
CDC Archive  
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