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Hepatitis C, Past or Present 2003 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, Past or Present  
2003 Case Definition  
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2003 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.  
Clinical Description  
Most hepatitis C virus (HCV) infected persons are asymptomatic. However, many have chronic liver disease, which can range from mild to severe including cirrhosis and liver cancer.  
Laboratory Criteria For Diagnosis  
Anti-HCV positive (repeat reactive) by enzyme immunoassay (EIA), verified by an additional more specific assay (e.g., recombinant immunblot assay [RIBA] for anti-HCV or nucleic acid testing for HCV ribonucleic acid [RNA]),  
OR  
HCV RIBA positive,  
OR  
Nucleic acid test for HCV RNA positive,  
OR  
Anti-HCV positive (repeat reactive) by EIA with a signal to cut-off ratio ≥ 3.8 (as this becomes available).  
Case Classification  
Probable  
A case that is anti-HCV positive (repeat reactive) by EIA and has alanine aminotranferase (ALT or serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase [SGPT]) values above the upper limit of normal, but the anti-HCV EIA result has not been verified by an additional more specific assay or the signal to cutoff ratio is unknown.  
Confirmed  
A case that is laboratory confirmed and that does not meet the case definition for acute hepatitis C.  
Related Case Definition(s)  
Hepatitis C, Chronic | 2020 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Chronic | 2016 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Past or Present | 2012 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Past or Present | 2011 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Chronic | 2010 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Past or Present | 2005 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  
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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  
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