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Hepatitis C, Past or Present 2012 Case Definition | CDC  
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Hepatitis C, Past or Present  
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2012 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)  
11-ID-06  
Clinical Description  
Most hepatitis C virus (HCV)-infected persons are asymptomatic; however, many have chronic liver disease, which can range from mild to severe.  
Laboratory Criteria For Diagnosis  
One or more of the following three criteria (except in persons less than 18 months of age, for whom only criteria 3 would meet the case classification 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 qualitative, quantitative or genotype testing).  
Case Classification  
Probable  
A case that does not meet the case definition for acute hepatitis C, is anti-HCV positive (repeat reactive) by EIA, and has alanine aminotransferase (ALT or 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 cut-off ratio is unknown.  
Confirmed  
A case that is laboratory confirmed and 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 | 2011 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Chronic | 2010 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Past or Present | 2005 Case Definition  
Hepatitis C, Past or Present | 2003 Case Definition  
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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.  
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