# Extracted Content from https://ndc.services.cdc.gov/case-definitions/hepatitis-d-virus-hdv/

Hepatitis D Virus 2025 Case Definition | CDC  
Skip directly to site content  
Skip directly to search  
An official website of the United States government  
Here's how you know  
Official websites use .gov  
A .gov website belongs to an official government organization in the United States.  
Secure .gov websites use HTTPS  
A  
lock  
(  
) or  
https://  
means you've safely connected to the .gov website. Share sensitive information only on official, secure websites.  
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  
September 13, 2024  
Case Definitions  
Message Mapping Guides  
Supporting Documents for Implementation  
Event Codes & Other Surveillance Resources  
Hepatitis D Virus  
2025 Case Definition  
Hepatitis D Virus  
2025 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)  
24-ID-06  
Background  
HDV infection, often referred to as hepatitis D, can cause severe liver damage and even death among persons living with hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. HDV infection in the United States (U.S.) is believed to be rare, but due to limited and non-uniform testing and reporting practices, the exact burden of HDV infection is unknown. A 2024 study by Quest Diagnostics found among 2,646 hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) positive specimens, 1.6% were HDV antibody positive (indicating past or current infection); among those HDV antibody positive, 39% were found to be HDV RNA positive (indicating current infection)  
1  
. Identifying HDV infection is vital in the management of individuals living with HBV infection. HDV infection can accelerate progression of HBV infection, resulting in liver cirrhosis and liver failure. Despite its importance, HDV testing practices remain inconsistent. In one study, it was found that among a cohort of 157,333 persons with HBV infection, only 6.7% had received testing for HDV infection.  
1  
A similar study of Veterans Affairs data found that among 12,002 persons with HBV infection, only 19.7% had received testing for HDV infection.  
2  
While there are no FDA-approved HDV assays at this time, the availability of serologic and molecular HDV assays at commercial laboratories has increased in recent years. Commercially available assays were developed in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements and are intended for clinical purposes. HDV antigen testing is not a reliable marker of current HDV infection, and HDV IgM antibody, like many IgM tests, has less than ideal specificity.  
3  
For this reason, only the total anti-HDV and HDV RNA tests are included in the criteria for case classification. The proposed standardized case definition will facilitate uniform public health surveillance, offering comprehensive insights into the burden of HDV infection and enable jurisdictions to estimate prevalence, analyze trends, and make informed decisions regarding public health interventions and resource allocation.  
Laboratory Criteria  
Confirmatory Laboratory Evidence:\*  
Detection of HDV RNA by nucleic acid test (qualitative, quantitative, or genotype testing).  
Presumptive Laboratory Evidence:\*  
Total antibody to hepatitis D virus (total anti-HDV) is reactive.  
\* Note: The categorical labels used here to stratify laboratory evidence are intended to support the standardization of case classifications for public health surveillance. The categorical labels should not be used to interpret the utility or validity of any laboratory test methodology.  
Criteria to Distinguish a New Case from an Existing Case  
A case of HDV infection should be enumerated only if the person has not been previously enumerated as a case of HDV infection.  
Case Classification  
Probable  
Meets presumptive laboratory evidence.  
Confirmed  
Meets confirmatory laboratory evidence.  
Case Classification Comments  
CDC does not have Office of Management and Budget approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act to collect HDV infection case notifications through NNDSS and will not plan to perform data collection at this time.  
References  
Marlowe, E. M., Swanson, B. E., Realegeno, S. E., Kagan, R. M., & Meyer, W. A. (2024, March 3). Epidemiologic Burden of Hepatitis D Virus in the United States. Epidemiologic burden of hepatitis D virus in the United States. https://www.natap.org/2024/CROI/croi\_228.htm  
Wong, R. J., Kaufman, H. W., Niles, J. K., Chen, C., Yang, Z., Kapoor, H., & Cheung, R. (2022). Low performance of hepatitis delta virus testing among two national cohorts of chronic hepatitis B patients in the United States.  
American Journal of Gastroenterology, 117  
(12), 2067–2070.  
https://doi.org/10.14309/ajg.0000000000001947  
Tseligka, E. D., Clément, S., & Negro, F. (2021). HDV pathogenesis: Unravelling Ariadne's thread.  
Viruses, 13  
(5), 778.  
https://doi.org/10.3390/v13050778  
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  
Public Health Publications  
HHS.gov  
USA.gov