

CDC EIP Hepatitis Project Viral Hepatitis Case Definitions*

Hepatitis A

Clinical Criteria

An acute illness with:

discrete onset of symptoms (e.g. fatigue, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, intermittent nausea, vomiting) **and**
jaundice **or** elevated serum aminotransferase levels

Laboratory Criteria

IgM antibody to hepatitis A virus (IgM anti-HAV) positive

Case Classification

Confirmed: A case that meets the clinical criteria and is laboratory confirmed **or** a case that meets the clinical criteria and occurs in a person who has an epidemiologic link with a person who has a laboratory-confirmed hepatitis A infection (i.e. household or sexual contact of an infected person during the 15-50 days before onset of symptoms).

Probable (*Colorado only*): A case that occurs in a child ≤ 5 years of age, meets the laboratory criteria for diagnosis (IgM anti-HAV positive), and has an epidemiologic link to a confirmed case of acute hepatitis A.

Acute Hepatitis B

Clinical Criteria

An acute illness with:

discrete onset of symptom(s) (e.g. fatigue, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, intermittent nausea, vomiting), **and**
jaundice **or** elevated serum aminotransferase levels

Laboratory Criteria

IgM antibody to hepatitis B core antigen (IgM anti-HBc) positive (preferred) **or**
Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) positive
IgM anti-HAV negative (if done)

Case Classification

Confirmed: A case that meets the clinical criteria **and** is laboratory confirmed.

Probable (*Colorado only*): A case that meets the laboratory criteria for diagnosis, and an acute illness with jaundice or elevated serum aminotransferase levels and does not have another apparent cause documented by a health professional (eg. liver cancer, Total HBc negative). A discrete onset of symptoms is **not required or**
A case that meets the clinical case definition, for whom hepatitis B serologic testing results from the time of illness-onset are **not available and occurs in a person** with an epidemiologic link to a confirmed case of acute or chronic hepatitis B (i.e., sexual, household, or needle-sharing contact of an infected person during the 6-weeks to 6 months prior to onset of symptoms)

Chronic Hepatitis B

Clinical Criteria

Persons with chronic hepatitis B infection may have no evidence of liver disease or may have a spectrum of disease ranging from chronic hepatitis to cirrhosis or liver cancer. Persons with chronic infection may be asymptomatic.

Laboratory Criteria

IgM anti-HBc negative **and** positive on one of the following tests: HBsAg, HBeAg, or HBV DNA, **or**

HBsAg positive **or** HBV DNA positive **or** HBeAg positive **two times** at least 6 months apart (any combination of these tests performed **at least 6 months apart** is acceptable)

Case Classification

Confirmed: a case that meets laboratory criteria for diagnosis.

Probable: a case with a single HBsAg positive **or** HBV DNA positive **or** HBeAg positive lab result and no IgM anti-HBc results are available.

Perinatal HBV Infection

Clinical Criteria

Perinatal HBV infection in the newborn can range from asymptomatic to fulminant hepatitis.

Laboratory Criteria

Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) positive

Case Classification

Confirmed: a case that meets laboratory criteria and is an infant >1-24 months old who is born in the United States or U.S. territories to an HBsAg-positive mother.

ALL CASES OF HEPATITIS C IN CHILDREN < 18 MONTHS OF AGE WILL BE FOLLOWED BY CDPHE STAFF.

Acute Hepatitis C

Clinical Criteria

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**
jaundice **or** serum alanine aminotransferase (ALT level > 400 IU/L)

Laboratory Criteria

One or more of the following:

Anti-HCV screening test positive with a signal to cut-off ratio predictive of a true positive (e.g. EIA >3.8, CIA >8.0, MEIA >10.0, or Bayer Advia Centaur >11.0 **or** HCV RIBA positive, **or** NAT for HCV RNA positive, **and**

IgM 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 criteria, is laboratory confirmed, and is not known to have chronic hepatitis C.

Probable (*Colorado only*): A case that meets the clinical criteria and the following laboratory criteria:

IgM anti-HAV negative, (if done), **and**

IgM anti-HBc negative, or if not done, HBsAg negative, **and**

Anti-HCV positive (repeat reactive) by EIA, CIA, MEIA, or Bayer Advia Centaur **with or without** signal to cut-off ratio and **with or without** verification by an additional more specific assay.

Suspect (*Colorado Only*): A case that does **not** meet the confirmed or probable acute hepatitis C case definitions (clinical/laboratory), has no evidence of chronic hepatitis C infection, **and** case seroconverts from EIA, CIA, MEIA, or Bayer Advia Centaur negative to EIA ≥ 3.8 , CIA ≥ 8.0 , MEIA >10.0, or Bayer Advia Centaur > 11.0 positive (within the 2 week to 6 month incubation period),

or

a case that meets the clinical criteria but does **not** have hepatitis A (IgM anti HAV) or hepatitis B testing performed (IgM anti-HBc or HBsAg), and is anti-HCV positive (repeat reactive) by EIA, CIA, MEIA, or Bayer Advia Centaur **with or without** signal to cut-off ratio, and **with or without** verification by an additional more specific assay.

Chronic Hepatitis C (Past or Present)

Clinic Criteria

Most hepatitis C infected persons are asymptomatic. However, many have chronic liver disease, which can range from mild to severe including cirrhosis, and liver cancer.

Laboratory Criteria

Anti-HCV positive (repeat reactive) by EIA, CIA, MEIA, or Bayer Advia Centaur verified by an additional more specific assay (e.g. RIBA, HCV RNA, HCV Genotype) **or**

Anti HCV positive (repeat reactive) by EIA, CIA, MEIA, or Bayer Advia Centaur with signal to cut-off ratio EIA (≥ 3.8), CIA (>8.0), MEIA (≥ 10.0), or Bayer Advia Centaur (≥ 11.0) **or**

HCV RIBA positive, **or**

HCV RNA positive, **or**

Report of HCV genotype

Case Classification

Confirmed: A case that is laboratory confirmed.

Probable: A case that is anti-HCV positive (repeat reactive) by EIA, CIA, MEIA, or Bayer Advia Centaur, **and** has ALT values above the upper limit of normal, **but** the anti-HCV result has not been verified by an additional more specific assay. **or** the signal to cut-off ratio is unknown.

Suspect (Colorado only): A case that is anti-HCV positive (repeat reactive) by EIA, CIA, MEIA, or Bayer Advia Centaur, **and** has ALT values within the range of normal (or are not available), **and** additional more specific assays or signal to cut-off ratios are unknown.

** New definitions applied as of 1/01/2006*