



February 26, 2007

Good Day:

You should have recently received a letter from the Michigan Department of Community Health regarding some changes to the Hepatitis C reporting algorithm. We'd like to clarify how best to address these changes using the tools available in the MDSS.

The CDC case definition indicates that referrals that are EIA positive for Anti-HCV without supporting laboratory results are not to be reported. Confusion can arise if these labs have been entered into the MDSS and marked "**Completed**" / "Not a Case". When additional laboratory results are entered it will be unclear if the initial case was reported as "Completed" / "Not a Case" or "Completed" / "Confirmed" during the duplication process.

In order to address this issue, we are recommending that you close Anti-HCV EIA only cases as "**Canceled**" / "Not a Case". In the event that additional information is added into the MDSS for this individual, it will then be clear during the deduplication process that no past infection has been reported and the initial case should be reactivated or a new case created for this investigation.

Below you will find illustrated examples of the deduplication process described above.

If you have any questions on this process please contact your regional epidemiologist or the MDCH Bureau of Epidemiology at 517-335-8165.

Thank you,

The Surveillance Section, Hepatitis C Workgroup

Example 1:

In this instance the initial case was closed as “**Completed**”/”Not a Case” and it is unclear whether or not the two cases should be merged. Merging them would result in a possible case being missed, but creating one might result in two reports of the same disease incident.

Case Deduplication for LUCY DOE

Select an existing LUCY DOE case as a match or choose to create a new case from the entered data.

Report Status	Disease	Referral Date	Investigator	Jurisdiction	
New	Hepatitis C, Chronic	02/09/2007	TBD	TBD	<input type="button" value="Create"/>
Completed	Hepatitis C, Chronic	02/09/2007	COLLINS, JIM	Genesee County	<input type="button" value="Matches Existing"/>

Example 2:

In this instance the initial case was closed as “**Canceled**”/”Not a Case” and it is clear that 1) the cases should be merged and the initial case reopened for investigation OR 2) a new report should be created and investigated.

Case Deduplication for LUCY DOE

Select an existing LUCY DOE case as a match or choose to create a new case from the entered data.

Report Status	Disease	Referral Date	Investigator	Jurisdiction	
New	Hepatitis C, Chronic	02/09/2007	TBD	TBD	<input type="button" value="Create"/>
Canceled	Hepatitis C, Chronic	02/09/2007	COLLINS, JIM	Genesee County	<input type="button" value="Matches Existing"/>