

Hepatitis C, Chronic and Acute

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Tip 1: Hepatitis C Unknown No Longer Available

- With the next release of the MDSS **Hepatitis C Unknown** will no longer be an option for new cases. You will still be able to search and do reports using the term, but it will no longer be an assignable option.
- The most up-to-date Hepatitis C case status determination flowchart is available at the end of this document.

Tip 2: Confusion with Confirmed and Probable

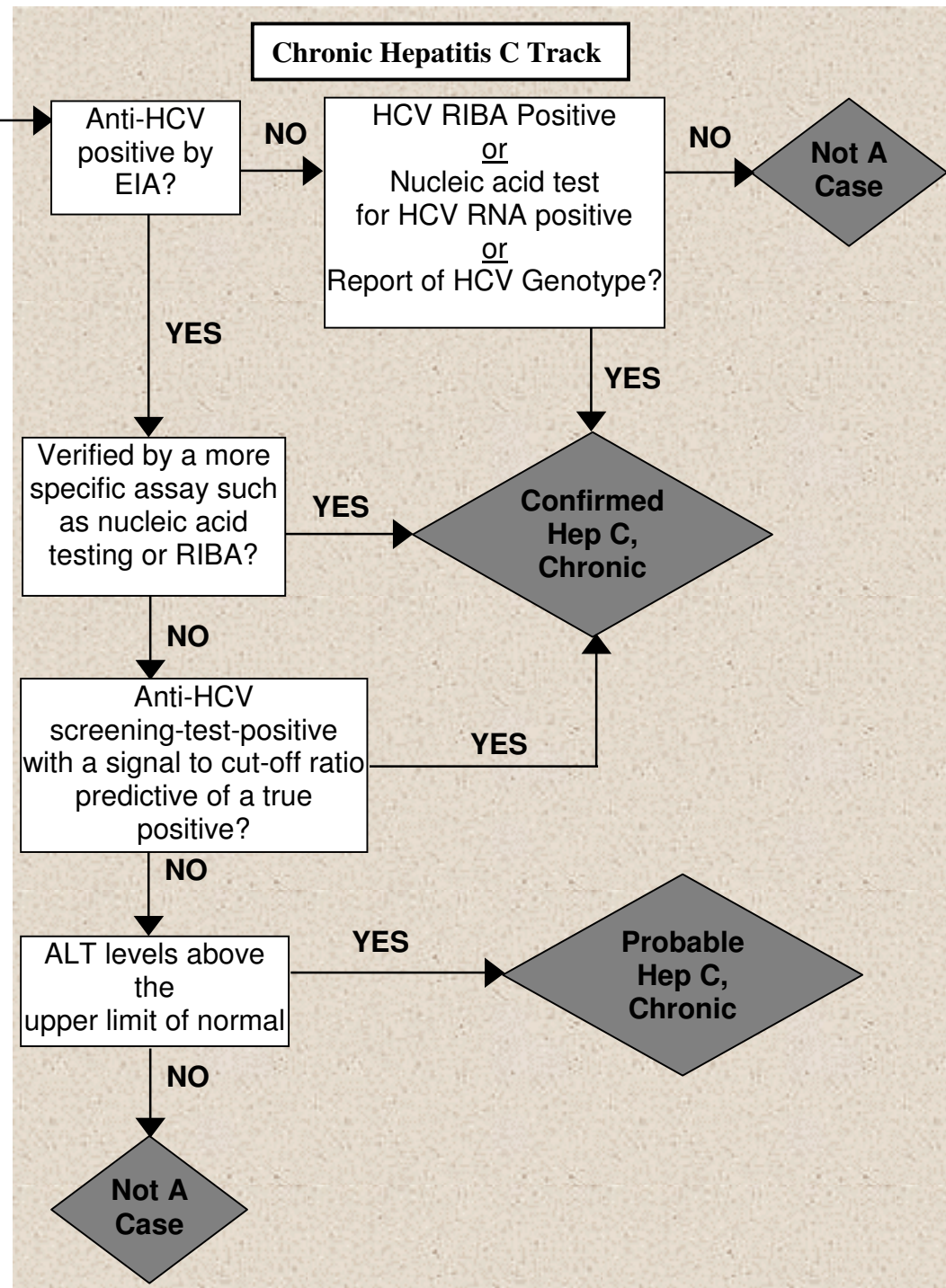
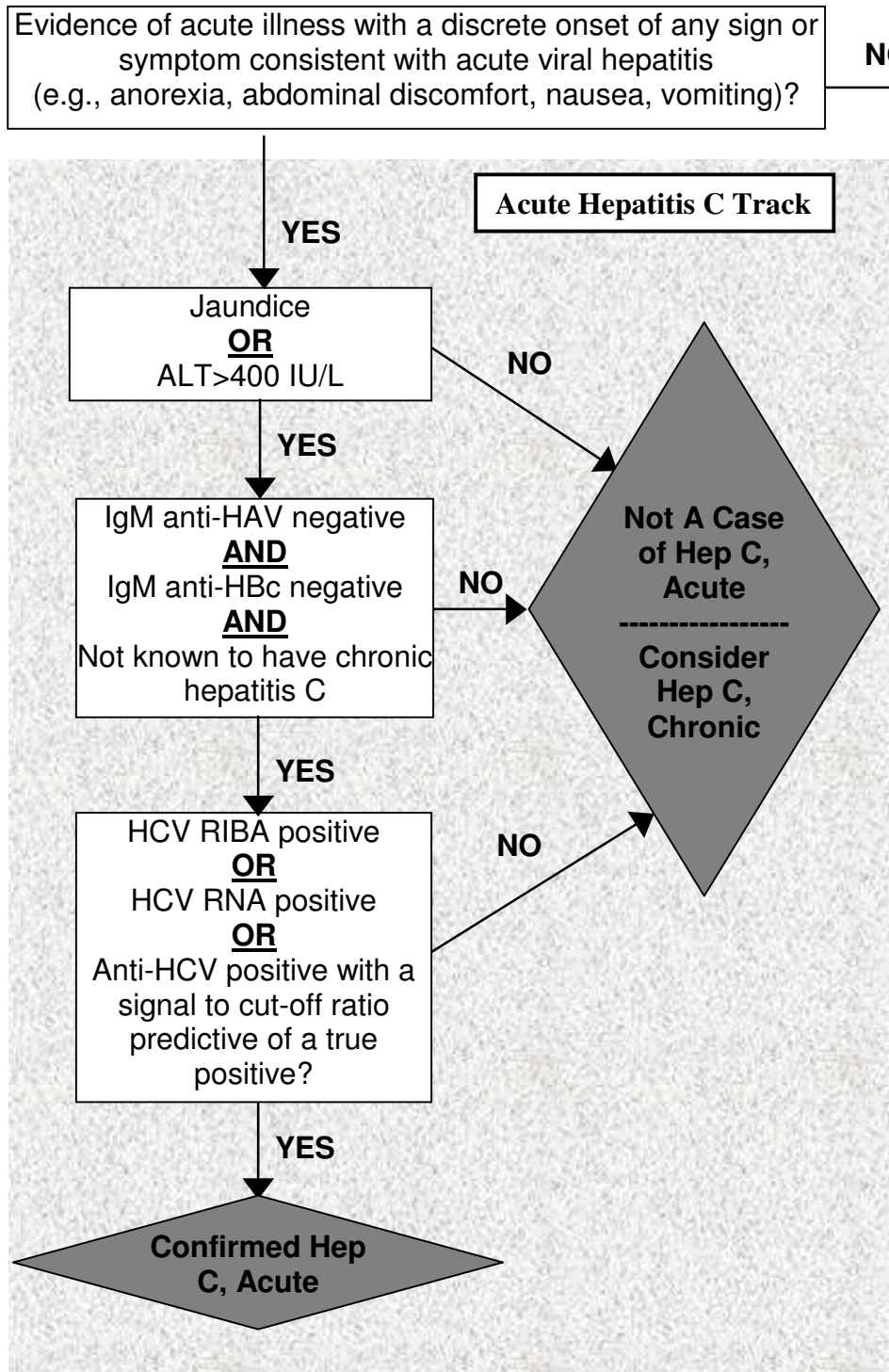
- Only Chronic Hepatitis C can be reported as confirmed or probable.
- An Acute case of Hepatitis C can only be reported as confirmed.
- Cases are to be classified *at time of completion* as
 - Acute: **Confirmed** or **Not a Case**
 - OR
 - Chronic: **Confirmed, Probable** or **Not a Case**
- If a case of either condition is determined to not meet case definition criteria it must be reported as **Not a Case**.

Refer to the available flow chart below and the CDC case definitions at http://www.cdc.gov/ncphi/diss/nndss/casedef/case_definitions.htm#h

Tip 3: Further Information

- If additional information regarding a confirmed case in MDSS shows that it is not a true case or that it does not meet case definition criteria, the **Case Status** in MDSS must be changed to **Not a Case**.

Hepatitis C Reporting Flowchart



Acronyms

ALT – Serum Alanine Aminotransferase, also called **SGPT**
SGPT – Serum Glutamic Pyruvic Transaminase
AST – Aspartate Aminotransferase, also called **SGOT**
SGOT – Serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase
Anti-HCV – Antibodies to Hepatitis C Virus
EIA – Enzyme Immunoassay
HCV – Hepatitis C Virus
HCV-RNA – Hepatitis C Virus Ribonucleic Acid (genetic material)
IU/L – International Units per Liter
IgM Anti-HAV – IgM Antibody to Hepatitis A Virus
IgM Anti-HBc – IgM Antibody to Hepatitis B Core Antigen
NAT – Nucleic Acid Test
PCR – Polymerase Chain Reaction
RIBA – Recombinant Immunoblot Assay

Clarification

ALT/SGPT and AST/SGOT levels: Enzymes produced by the liver that when elevated indicates liver damage. AST/SGOT results are not part of the hepatitis C case definitions.

Jaundice: condition in which the whites of the eyes go yellow and in more severe cases the skin also turns yellow; caused by the yellow pigment, bilirubin that is normally disposed of by the liver; often a symptom of viral hepatitis infection.

Signal to cut-off ratio predictive of a true positive: Signal-to-cut-off ratios are calculated by dividing the optical density (OD) value of the sample being tested by the OD value of the assay cut-off for that run. A specific s/co ratio can be identified for each test that would predict a true antibody-positive result (as defined by the results of supplemental testing) $\geq 95\%$ of the time, regardless of the anti-HCV prevalence or characteristics of the population being tested. Synonymous phrases include “high signal to cut-off ratio” and “serum to cut-off”. The chart below, provided by the CDC, describes the signal-to-cut off ratio of some commercially available assays.

Screening test kit	Signal-to-cut-off ratio predictive of a true positive $\geq 95\%$ of the time
Ortho HCV Version 3.0 ELISA Test System	3.8
Abbott HCV EIA 2.0	3.8
Ortho Vitros Anti-HCV Assay	8.0
Abbott AxSYM Antibody to HCV	10.0
Bayer Advia Centaur HCV Assay	Not Yet Available