

## **HEPATITIS C, ACUTE (2012)**

### ***Clinical case definition***

An acute illness with:

- 1) a discrete onset of any sign or symptom\* consistent with acute viral hepatitis (e.g., fever, headache, malaise, diarrhea, anorexia, abdominal discomfort, nausea, vomiting), **AND**
- 2) either a) jaundice, or b) serum alanine aminotransferase (ALT) levels >400 IU/L.

\*A documented negative HCV antibody laboratory test result followed within 6 months by a positive test (as described in the laboratory criteria for diagnosis) result does not require an acute clinical presentation to meet the surveillance case definition.

### ***Laboratory criteria for diagnosis***

**One or more of the following criteria:**

- 1) 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: [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/c/sc\\_ratios.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/c/sc_ratios.htm)), **OR**
- 2) Hepatitis C Virus Recombinant Immunoblot Assay (HCV RIBA) positive, **OR**
- 3) Nucleic acid test (NAT) for HCV RNA positive (including qualitative, quantitative or genotype testing).

**AND, if done, meets the following two criteria:**

- 1) IgM antibody to hepatitis A virus (**If done**) (IgM anti-HAV) negative, **AND**
- 2) IgM antibody to hepatitis B core antigen (**If done**) (IgM anti-HBc) negative

### ***Case classification***

*Confirmed:* a case that meets the clinical case definition, is laboratory confirmed, and is not known to have chronic hepatitis C.

## **HEPATITIS C, CHRONIC (also known as Hepatitis C Virus Infection, Past or Present) (2012)**

### ***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 three would meet the case classification criteria):

- 1) 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 as determined and posted by CDC. (URL for the signal to cut-off ratios: [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/c/sc\\_ratios.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/c/sc_ratios.htm)), **OR**
- 2) Hepatitis C Virus Recombinant Immunoblot Assay (HCV RIBA) positive, **OR**
- 3) Nucleic acid test (NAT) for HCV RNA positive (including qualitative, quantitative or genotype testing).

### ***Case classification***

*Probable:* a case that 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.