

Hepatitis B, Acute

Merlin reporting code = 07030
 Case report form (CRF): [Viral Hepatitis CRF](#)
MERLIN EXTENDED DATA REQUIRED

Clinical description

An acute illness with discrete onset of symptoms consistent with acute viral hepatitis (e.g., fever, headache, malaise, anorexia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain) **and** either jaundice **or** elevated liver enzymes (serum alanine aminotransferase [ALT] level >100 IU/L).

A documented negative hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) result followed within 6 months by a positive test result (either HBsAg, HBeAg, or HBV DNA including genotype) does not require an acute presentation to meet the surveillance case definition.

Clinical criteria for case classification

Confirmatory:

Discrete onset of symptoms **and**

- Either jaundice
- OR
- Elevated liver enzymes (ALT level >100 IU/L).

Presumptive:

Discrete onset of symptoms.

Laboratory criteria for case classification

Confirmatory:

(1) Applicable with confirmatory clinical criteria:

- Positive HBsAg **and**
- If done, positive IgM antibody to hepatitis B core antigen (IgM anti-HBc).

(2) Applicable with no clinical criteria:

Negative HBsAg followed *within 6 months* prior by a positive test result (either HBsAg, hepatitis B e antigen [HBeAg], or HBV DNA including genotype).

Presumptive:

(1) Positive IgM anti-HBc.

(2) Positive HBsAg.

(3) Negative test result other than HBsAg (either IgM anti-HBc, HBeAg, or HBV DNA including genotype) followed *within 6 months* prior by a positive test result (either HBsAg, IgM anti-HBc, HBeAg, or HBV DNA including genotype).

Case classification

Confirmed:

- A person with confirmatory clinical criteria, confirmatory laboratory evidence (1), and no previous diagnosis of chronic hepatitis B

OR

- A person with confirmatory laboratory evidence (2) and no previous diagnosis of chronic hepatitis B.

Probable:

- A person with presumptive clinical criteria, presumptive laboratory evidence (1), and no previous diagnosis of chronic hepatitis B,
- OR
- A person with presumptive clinical and presumptive laboratory evidence (2) who is epidemiologically linked to a confirmed acute hepatitis B case and has no previous diagnosis of chronic hepatitis B,
- OR
- A person with presumptive laboratory evidence (3) and no previous diagnosis of chronic hepatitis B.

Comments

Report liver enzyme results for all cases in Merlin.

Notes

See graphic for additional information related to the serological course of disease.

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