

Hepatitis E

Merlin reporting code = 07053
 Case report form (CRF): [Viral Hepatitis CRF](#)
MERLIN EXTENDED DATA REQUIRED

Clinical description

An acute viral illness with a) discrete onset of symptoms **and** b) jaundice **or** elevated liver enzymes. Symptoms most commonly include fatigue, abdominal pain, loss of appetite/anorexia, nausea, vomiting, or dark urine (tea colored).

Clinical criteria for case classification

Confirmatory:

Discrete onset of symptoms **and**

- Either jaundice
- OR
- Elevated liver enzymes.

Presumptive:

Discrete onset of symptoms.

Laboratory criteria for case classification

One of the following as evidence of Hepatitis E virus (HEV) infection:

- Positive IgM antibody to HEV (IgM anti-HEV),
- OR
- Positive HEV RNA by polymerase chain reaction (PCR),
- OR
- Positive total antibody (IgM and IgG) to HEV (anti-HEV)

And meets all the following criteria:

- Negative IgM antibody to hepatitis A virus (anti-HAV), if done;
- Negative IgM antibody to hepatitis B core antigen (IgM anti-HBc), if done;
- Negative hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg), if done; **and**
- Negative hepatitis C virus antibody (anti-HCV), if done.

Case classification

Confirmed:

A person with confirmatory clinical criteria and laboratory evidence.

Probable:

A person with presumptive clinical criteria and laboratory evidence.

Comments

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

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