Hepatitis E

Merlin disease code=07053
Case report form (CRF): Viral Hepatitis CRF
MERLIN EXTENDED DATA REQUIRED

Background
An acute viral illness with discrete onset of symptoms and either 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:
Both of the following:
- Discrete onset of symptoms
- And either of the following:
  - Jaundice
  - Or elevated liver enzymes.

Presumptive:
Discrete onset of symptoms.

Laboratory criteria for case classification
Both of the following:
- One or more 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 all the following:
  - Absence of a positive IgM antibody to hepatitis A virus (IgM anti-HAV),
  - And absence of a positive IgM antibody to hepatitis B core antigen (IgM anti-HBc),
  - And absence of a positive hepatitis B virus surface antigen (HBsAg),
  - And absence of a positive hepatitis C virus antibody (anti-HCV).

Epidemiological criteria for case classification
Not applicable.

Case classification
Confirmed:
A person with confirmatory clinical criteria and laboratory evidence.

Probable:
A person with presumptive clinical criteria and laboratory evidence.

Criteria to distinguish a new case from previous reports
Not applicable.
Comments
Report all available liver enzyme results for every case under liver function tests (Merlin disease code=00000).

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

Hepatitis E Virus Infection
Typical Serological Course

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