



Hepatitis C (individual aged less than 24 months)

Australian national notifiable diseases case definition

This document contains the surveillance case definition for hepatitis C (individual aged less than 24 months), which is nationally notifiable within Australia. State and territory health departments use this definition to decide whether to notify the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care of a case.

Version	Status	Last reviewed	Implementation date
1.0	Initial CDNA case definition	2022	1 January 2023

Hepatitis C may be diagnosed in individuals aged less than 24 months at the time of specimen collection. A diagnosis of hepatitis C in individuals aged less than 24 months excludes a diagnosis of newly acquired hepatitis C in individuals aged 24 months or older at the time of specimen collection and hepatitis C (unspecified).

Reporting

Only **confirmed cases** should be notified.

Confirmed case

A confirmed case requires **laboratory definitive evidence** only.

Laboratory definitive evidence

1. Detection of anti-hepatitis C antibody in a child aged 18 months to <24 months
- OR**
2. Detection of hepatitis C virus by nucleic acid testing¹ in a child aged 1 month to <24 months

¹ The use of point-of-care tests in the context of this case definition are for the purposes of surveillance. These point-of-care tests for detecting hepatitis C RNA must be listed on the [Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods](#) and administered by appropriately trained persons in-line with National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council's (NPAAC) [Requirements for Point-of-Care Testing](#). Because point of care tests are sometimes used outside of a quality management governance environment or an accredited pathology laboratory (as described by NPAAC), the PHLN laboratory case definition does not apply to tests performed in these settings.