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| Communicable Diseases Network Australia logo | Hepatitis B (unspecified)  Australian national notifiable diseases case definition |

This document contains the surveillance case definition for hepatitis B (unspecified), 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.

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| Version | Status | Last reviewed | Implementation date |
| 1.1 | **Laboratory** **Definitive** **Evidence**  For clarity, remove “in the absence of prior evidence of hepatitis B infection” and insert “except where there is prior evidence of hepatitis B infection”.  **Note**  To caution about the influence of recent vaccination, add note:  “Transient HBsAg positivity can occur in patients following HBV vaccination. This occurs more commonly in dialysis patients and is unlikely to persist beyond 14 days post-vaccination” | CDWG February 2015 | 1 July 2015 |
| 1.0 | Initial CDNA case definition. | 2004 | 2004 |

Reporting

Only **conﬁrmed cases** should be notiﬁed.

Conﬁrmed case

A conﬁrmed case requires **laboratory deﬁnitive evidence** AND that the case does not meet any of the criteria for a newly acquired case.

Laboratory deﬁnitive evidence

Detection of hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg), or hepatitis B virus by nucleic acid testing, except where there is prior evidence of hepatitis B infection.

*Note*:

Transient HBsAg positivity can occur in patients following HBV vaccination.  This occurs more commonly in dialysis patients and is unlikely to persist beyond 14 days post-vaccination.