



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.

Version	Status	Last reviewed	Implementation date
1.1	<p>Laboratory Definitive Evidence</p> <p>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”.</p> <p>Note</p> <p>To caution about the influence of recent vaccination, add note:</p> <p>“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”</p>	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.