



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
1.1	Removal of introductory note, replaced by inclusion of age in confirmed case criteria. Amendment to footnotes to clarify use of point-of-care tests, and handling of false positive results.	2025	1 January 2026
1.0	Initial CDNA case definition	2022	1 January 2023

Reporting

Only **confirmed cases** should be notified.

Confirmed case

A confirmed case requires that the case is aged less than 24 months at the time of specimen collection, AND **laboratory definitive evidence** only.

Laboratory definitive evidence

1. Detection of anti-hepatitis C antibody¹ in a child aged 18 months to <24 months²

OR

2. Detection of hepatitis C virus by nucleic acid testing¹ in a child aged 1 month to <24 months²

¹ Point-of-care tests for anti-hepatitis C antibody and/or hepatitis C virus nucleic acid may constitute laboratory definitive evidence if the test is 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](#).

² Cases considered to have false positive results should not be reported.