

Hepatitis, Viral, Perinatal Hepatitis B Virus Infection Acquired in the United States or U.S. Territories

1995 CDC Case Definition

The 1995 case definition appearing on this page was re-published incorrectly in the 1997 MMWR Recommendations and Reports titled *Case Definitions for Infectious Conditions Under Public Health Surveillance* [MMWR 1997;46(RR10)] (available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00047449.htm>). Thus, the 1995 and the 1997 versions of this case definition are not identical, and the 1995 version is the correct one.

Clinical case definition

Perinatal hepatitis B in the newborn may range from asymptomatic to fulminant hepatitis.

Laboratory criteria for diagnosis:

- Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) positive

Case classification

HBsAg positivity in any infant aged >1-24 months who was born in the United States or in U.S. territories to an HBsAg-positive mother

Comment

Infants born to HBsAg-positive mothers should receive hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) and the first dose of hepatitis B vaccine within 12 hours of birth, followed by the second and third doses of vaccine at 1 and 6 months of age, respectively. Postvaccination testing for HBsAg and anti-HBs (antibody to HBsAg) is recommended from 3 to 6 months following completion of the vaccine series. If HBIG and the initial dose of vaccine are delayed for >1 month after birth, testing for HBsAg may determine if the infant is already infected.