VIRAL HEPATITIS
SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM IN PORTUGAL

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Until Now

- Compulsory
- Only clinical
- Including hepatitis A, B, C, other specified hepatitis or non-specified hepatitis
- Paper-based
- Hierarchical transmission of data from any doctor to the DG’s Office in Lisbon
- No systematic genotyping
The New Surveillance System

- Compulsory
- Clinical and laboratorial
- Electronic report
- Doctors fill in a web-based form
- The laboratories send the data automatically machine-to-machine
The New Surveillance System

- Network transmission of data from any doctor or from lab to the local public health authority, regional public health level, National Institute of Health and DG´s Office
- Hierarchical validation of cases
- Data sent automatically to TESSy machine-to-machine
The New Surveillance System

- European List of Communicable Diseases adopted by the new system
- Generalization of European case definition
- Total of 69 diseases notified (65 from the European list plus 4 from the Portuguese rules)
Case definition of hepatitis A

- **Clinical criteria**
  - Any person with a discrete onset of symptoms (e.g. fatigue, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, intermittent nausea and vomiting)
  
  AND

- At least one of the following:
  - Fever
  - Jaundice
  - Elevated serum aminotransferase levels
Case definition of hepatitis A

- **Laboratory criteria**
- At least one of the following:
  - Detection of hepatitis A virus nucleic acid in serum or stool
  - Hepatitis A virus specific antibody response
  - Detection of hepatitis A virus antigen in stool
Case definition of hepatitis A

- **Epidemiological criteria**
  - At least one of the following:
    - Human to human transmission
    - Exposure to a common source
    - Exposure to contaminated food or drinking water
    - Environmental exposure

- **Case classification**
  - **Probable case**
    - Any person meeting the clinical criteria and epidemiological link
  - **Confirmed case**
    - Any person meeting both the clinical and laboratory criteria
Case definition of hepatitis B

- **Clinical criteria**
  - Any person with a discrete onset of symptoms (e.g. fatigue, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, intermittent nausea and vomiting)
  - AND
  - At least one of the following:
    - Fever
    - Jaundice
    - Elevated serum aminotransferase levels

- **Laboratory criteria**
  - Hepatitis B virus core IgM antigen specific antibody response
  - Laboratory results interpreted according to the vaccination status
Case definition of hepatitis B

- Epidemiological criteria
  - An epidemiological link by human to human transmission (e.g. sexual contact, vertical transmission or blood transmission)

- Case classification
  - Probable case
    - Any person meeting the clinical criteria and epidemiological link
  - Confirmed case
    - Any person meeting both the clinical and laboratory criteria
Case definition of hepatitis C

- **Laboratory criteria**
  - At least one of the following:
    - Detection of hepatitis C virus nucleic acid in serum
    - Hepatitis C virus specific antibody response confirmed by a different antibody test
  
- **Case classification**
  - Confirmed case
    - Any person meeting the laboratory criteria
ON-LINE DEMONSTRATION OF THE NEW INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE
Thank you

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