

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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