Hepatitis E, Acute Case Classification Flow Chart

December 2013 – no CSTE Case Definition – mostly based on the 2012 CSTE Case Definition for Hepatitis A

1. Did the patient have an acute illness onset?
   - Yes
     - Was the patient jaundiced?
       - Yes
         - Is the patient epidemiologically linked to a confirmed case?
           - Yes
             - Confirmed Case
           - No
             - Not a Case
         - No
           - Is the patient epidemiologically linked to a confirmed case?
             - Yes
               - Confirmed Case
             - No
               - Not a Case
       - No
         - Did the patient have elevated liver enzyme levels?
           - Yes
             - Confirmed Case
           - No
             - Not a Case
   - No
     - Not a Case

2. Are the lab results IgG positive?
   - Yes
     - Did the patient have an acute illness onset?
       - Yes
         - Was the patient jaundiced?
           - Yes
             - Did the patient have elevated liver enzyme levels?
               - Yes
                 - Confirmed Case
               - No
                 - Not a Case
           - No
             - Not a Case
       - No
         - Not a Case
   - No
     - Not a Case
Hepatitis E, Acute

1 **Acute Illness:** With a discrete onset of any sign or symptom consistent with acute viral hepatitis (e.g., fever, headache, malaise, anorexia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal pain).

2 **Liver Enzyme Levels:** Either alanine aminotransferase (ALT) or aspartate aminotransferase (AST) levels may be elevated. If the patient has no jaundice, we would usually expect these levels to be clearly elevated (in the hundreds or thousands). Each lab report slightly different ranges with AST and ALT levels, so you would need to check with the lab for the reference levels they are using.

3 **Epi Linked:** i.e., household or sexual contact with an infected person during the 15-64 days before the onset of symptoms

4 **IgM/IgG Positive:** Both the IgM and the IgG results are reportable. An acute case may be IgM positive before the IgG is detected. Due to the test not being very reliable, both results need to be capture to confirm a case of Hepatitis E.