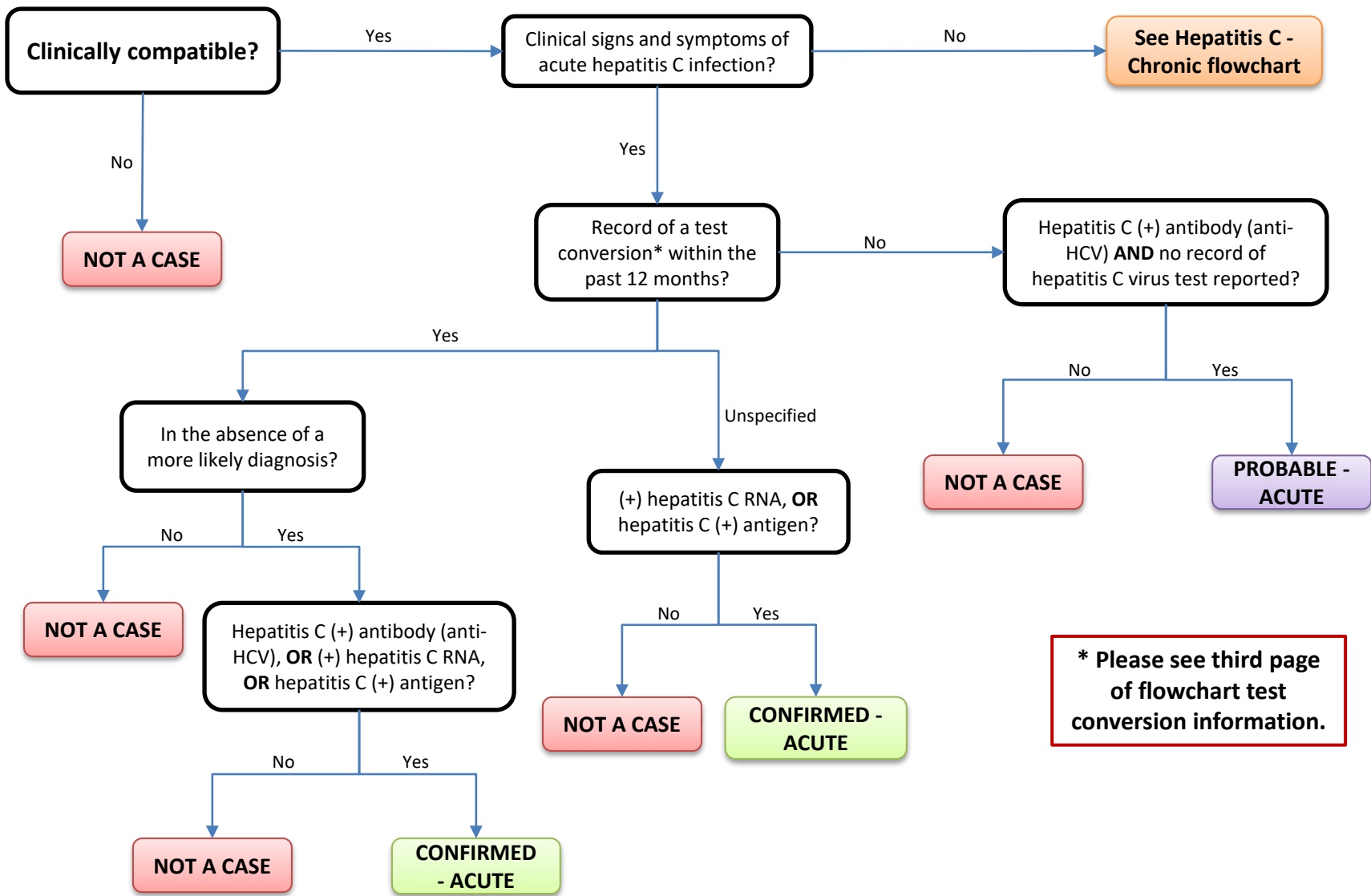
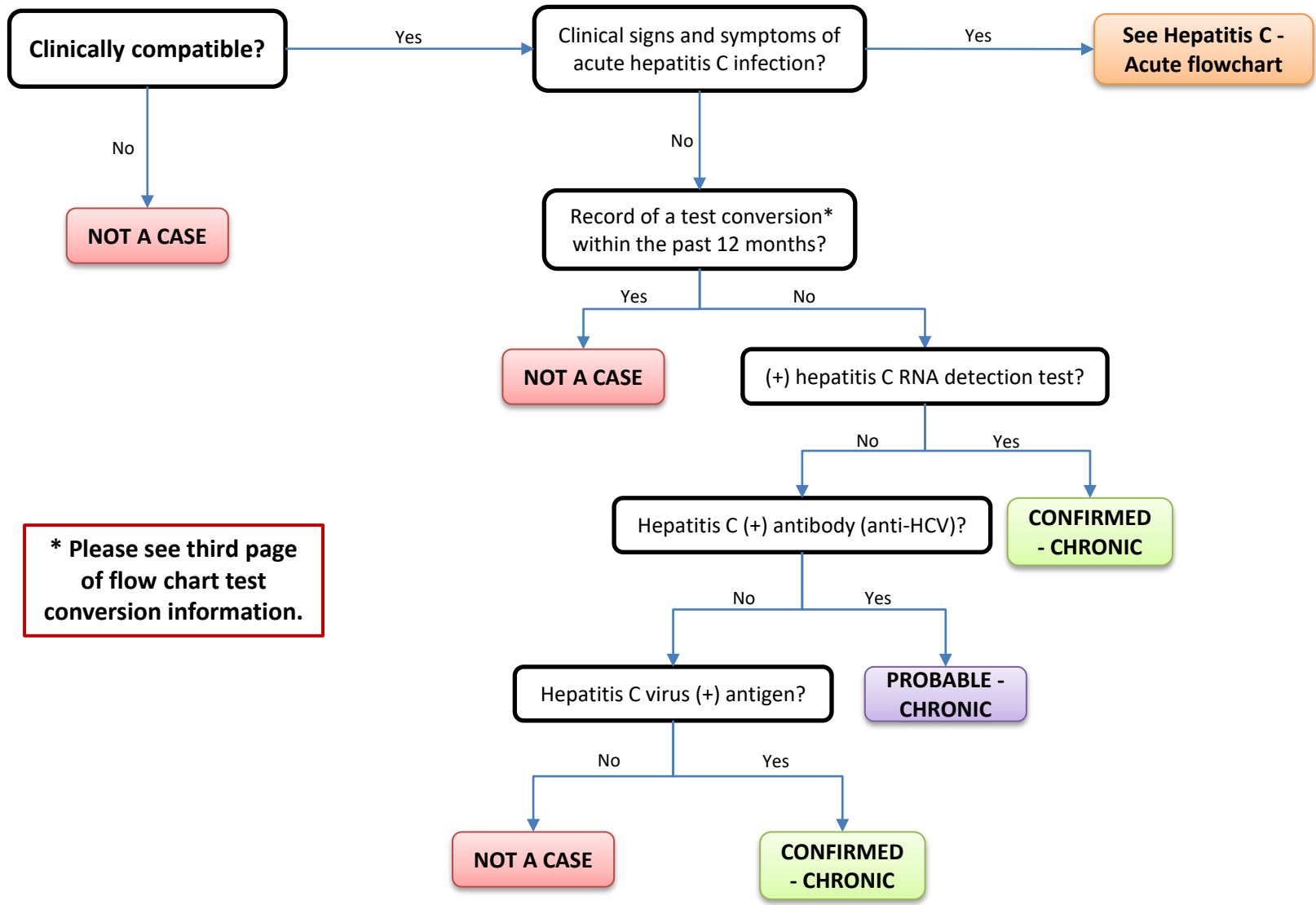


Hepatitis C, Acute



*** Please see third page of flowchart test conversion information.**

Hepatitis C, Chronic



*** Please see third page of flow chart test conversion information.**

Hepatitis C

Clinical Description, Critical Reporting Elements, and Comments

Clinical Description:

In the absence of a more likely diagnosis (which may include evidence of acute liver disease due to other causes or advanced liver disease due to preexisting chronic hepatitis C virus infection or other causes, such as alcohol exposure, other viral hepatitis, hemochromatosis etc.) AND one or more of the following:

- Jaundice, OR
- Elevated serum alanine aminotransferase (ALT) levels > 200 IU/L, OR
- Peak elevated total bilirubin levels ≥ 3 mg/dL

NOTE: all hepatitis C virus cases in each case classification category should be > 36 months of age, unless known to have been exposed non-perinatally.

Critical Reporting Elements and Comments:

- Specify the clinical form of the disease if known.

NOTE: An acute case of hepatitis C should be reported as a chronic case of hepatitis C if a positive NAAT for HCV RNA or a positive HCV antigen is reported 1 year or longer after acute case onset.

A confirmed acute case may not be reported as a probable chronic case (i.e., HCV antibody positive, but with an unknown HCV RNA NAAT or antigen status).

A chronic hepatitis C case that has already been reported in the past should not be reported again.

***Test conversion** refers to a documented lab result of—

- 1) hepatitis C negative antibody,
- 2) hepatitis C negative antigen, or
- 3) hepatitis C nucleic acid not detected, followed within 12 months by a positive result of any of these tests.