



## Infection reports

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### Immunisation

## Laboratory reports of hepatitis A and C (England and Wales): January-March 2014

### Laboratory reports of hepatitis A in England and Wales (January-March 2014)

There were a total of 69 laboratory reports of hepatitis A reported to Public Health England (PHE) during the first quarter of 2014 (January-March). This was a similar number of reported compared to the fourth quarter of 2013 (n=67) and a 5.8% increase on the same quarter in 2013 (n=73).

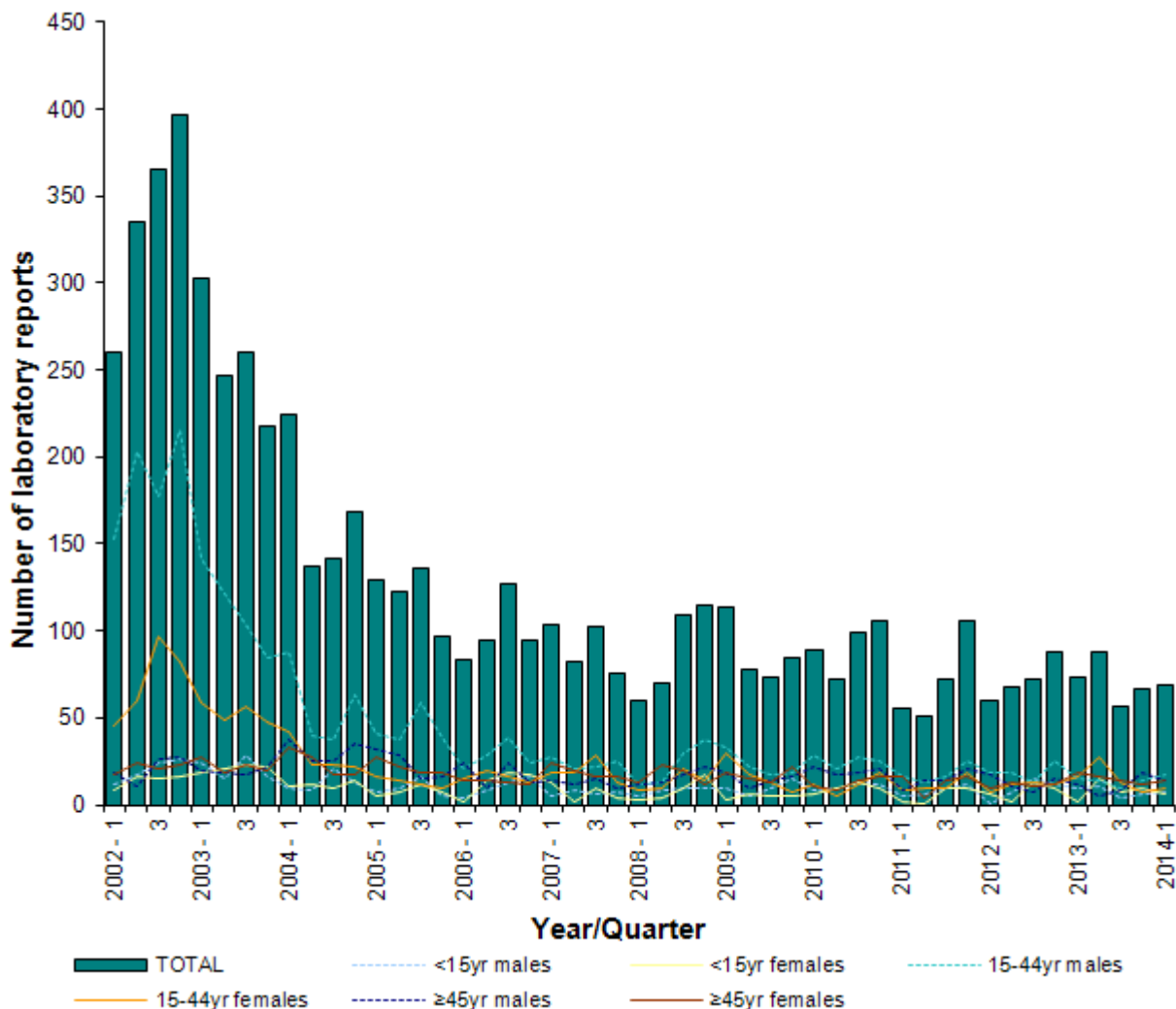
Age-group and sex were well reported (>98% complete). Twenty-eight (40.6%) reports were among those aged over 44 years, a further 27 (39.1%) reports were among the 15-44 year old age group and 14 (20.3%) reports were from the under 15 year age group.

Males accounted for 55.9% of all reports. A similar proportion of males and females were reported among those aged over 44 years old (50.0% males). However, more males than females were reported in the under 15 years age group (63.0% males) and in the under 15 year age group (53.8% males).

**Table 1. Laboratory reports of hepatitis A in England and Wales, January to March 2014**

Age group	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
<1 year	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
1-4 years	2	0	1	<b>3</b>
5-9 years	3	3	0	<b>6</b>
10-14 years	2	3	0	<b>5</b>
15-24 years	4	7	0	<b>11</b>
25-34 years	10	0	0	<b>10</b>
35-44 years	3	3	0	<b>6</b>
45-54 years	8	3	0	<b>11</b>
55-64 years	2	3	0	<b>5</b>
>65 years	4	8	0	<b>12</b>
Unknown	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>69</b>

**Figure 1. Laboratory reports of hepatitis A by age and sex (England and Wales): 2002-2014**

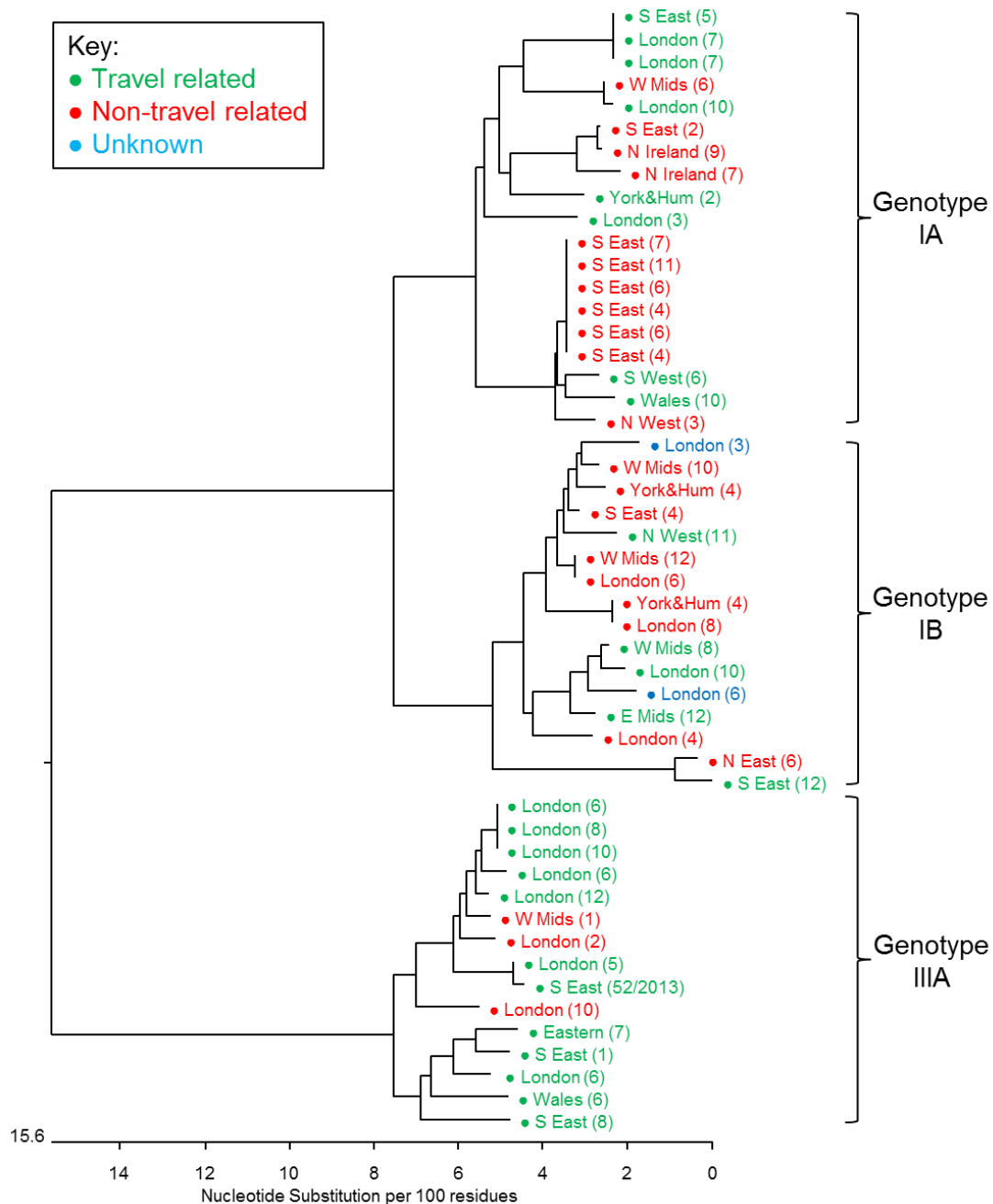


### Reference laboratory confirmation and phylogeny of hepatitis A infection

Of the 69 patients notified as having acute HAV infection during the first quarter of 2014, 56 had samples forwarded to the Virus Reference Department for confirmation either by serology or by HAV RNA or by both. Fifteen of the patients were not confirmed to have acute HAV infection; 13 were tested by serology and two were tested by HAV RNA. The remaining 41 patients were confirmed to have acute HAV infection; 16 were confirmed by serology and HAV RNA and 25 by HAV RNA alone. In addition seven patients were confirmed to have acute HAV infection that had not been reported through the laboratory reporting system although they were recorded in HPzone. Two patients from Northern Ireland were also confirmed to have acute HAV infection..

A total of 50 patients were genotyped over this period; 19 were genotype IA (38%), 16 were genotype IB (32%) and 15 were genotype IIIA (30%). Of these samples 25 had travel history (50%), 23 had no travel history (46%) and 2 had no information (4%). This information is presented as a phylogenetic tree (figure 2). Each sequence is represented by a dot with the patient region and the week of sampling in brackets.

Figure 2. Phylogenetic tree of genotype IA, IB, and IIIA sequences January to March 2014 (n=50)



## Laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England and Wales (January-March 2014)

There were a total of 2,782 laboratory reports of hepatitis C reported to the PHE between January and March 2014. This was a similar number of reported compared to the fourth quarter of 2013 (n=2,757), and a 3.6% increase on the same quarter in 2013 (n=2,881).

Age-group and sex were well reported (>98% complete). Where known males accounted for 69.4% of reports (1,920/2,776), which is consistent with previous quarters. Adults aged 25-44 years accounted for 55.7% of the total number of hepatitis C reports.

**Table 1. Laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England and Wales, January to March 2014**

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Unknown</b>	<b>Total</b>
<1 year	1	1	0	<b>2</b>
1-4 years	2	0	0	<b>2</b>
5-9 years	4	1	0	<b>5</b>
10-14 years	1	2	0	<b>3</b>
15-24 years	64	74	2	<b>140</b>
25-34 years	485	256	6	<b>747</b>
35-44 years	576	213	5	<b>794</b>
45-54 years	490	157	0	<b>647</b>
55-64 years	236	87	1	<b>324</b>
>65 years	50	52	0	<b>102</b>
Unknown	11	3	2	<b>16</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,920</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2,782</b>