



Infection report

Volume 9 Number 14 Published on: 24 April 2015

Laboratory reports of *Haemophilus influenzae* by age group and serotype (England and Wales): January to March 2015

In the first quarter of 2015 (January to March) there was a total of 240 laboratory confirmed cases of invasive *Haemophilus influenzae* (Hi). This represents a 12% increase in the number of cases compared to the first quarter of 2014 (n=214). There were 176 cases in the fourth quarter of 2014.

Of the samples which underwent serotyping (n=188), 87% were non-capsulated *Haemophilus influenzae* (nHi), a further 12% were serotype a, e, or f, and 1% were serotype b (Hib). This was comparable to the first quarter of 2014 when; 87% of serotyped samples were nHi, 12% were serotype a, e, or f and 1% were Hib.

Age-group was well reported (see table). Of the laboratory confirmed cases during the first quarter of 2015: 82% were aged 15 years and over; 10% were under one year of age, 5% were 1-4 years old, and 2% were among 5-14 year olds. Similarly, in the first quarter of 2014: 80% were aged 15 years and over; 13% were under one year of age, and 5% were 1-4 year olds and 2% were among 5-14 year olds. There was a 17% decrease (from 23 in 2014 to 19 in 2015) in nHi cases among children aged under one year old compared to the first quarter of 2014. Among those aged 15 years and over there was 13% increase in nHi case from 117 in 2014 to 132 in 2015.

During the first quarter of 2015, 89% of cases in children under 15 years were nHi (n=32/36). There was one case of Hib in this age-group during the same quarter; a fully vaccinated 3 year old who presented with meningitis and survived the infection. There were no cases of Hib during the first quarter of 2014. The most recent death in a child aged under 16 years attributed to invasive Hib disease was in 2011.

Age distribution of laboratory-confirmed cases of *Haemophilus influenzae* by serotype England and Wales, first quarter 2015 (and 2014)

Serotype	Age-group					Total, third quarter 2014 (2013)
	<1y	1-4y	5-14y	15+	nk	
b	– (–)	1 (–)	– (–)	1 (1)	– (–)	2 (1)
nc	19 (23)	8 (8)	5 (3)	132 (117)	– (–)	164 (151)
a,e,f	2 (3)	1 (1)	– (–)	19 (17)	– (–)	22 (21)
not typed	3 (2)	3 (1)	1 (2)	44(36)	1 (–)	52 (41)
Total	24 (28)	13 (10)	6 (5)	196 (171)	1 (–)	240 (214)

Notes: " –" Indicates that testing yielded no positives. Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.