



Infection reports

Volume 9 Number 14 Published on: 24 April 2015

Immunisation

Laboratory reports of hepatitis A and C (England and Wales): October-December 2014

Laboratory reports of hepatitis A in England and Wales (October-December 2014)

There were a total of 87 laboratory reports of hepatitis A reported to Public Health England (PHE) during the fourth quarter of 2014 (October-December 2014). This was a 17.6% increase on the number of reports during the third quarter of 2014 (n=74) and a 29.9% increase on the same quarter in 2013 (n=67).

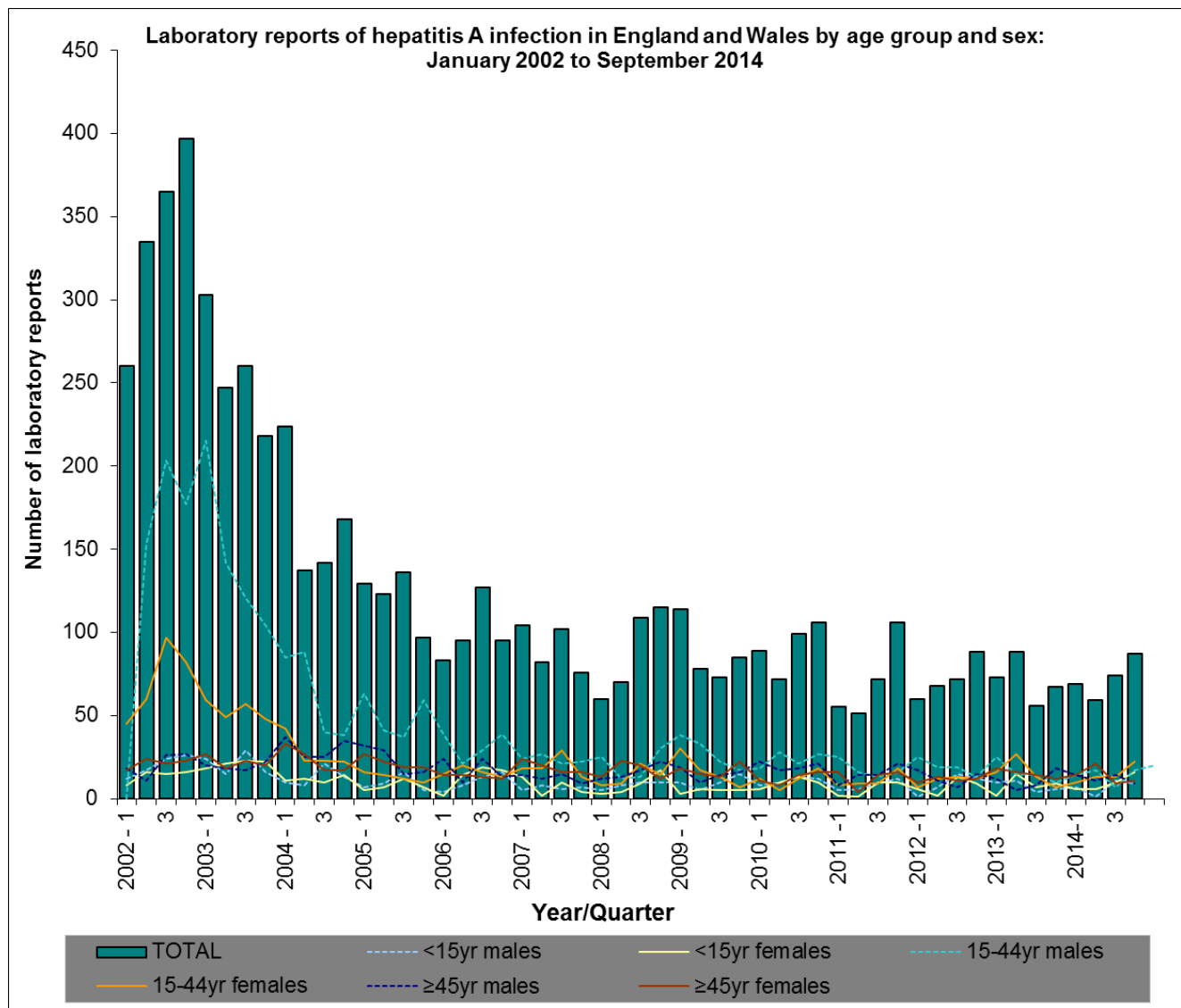
Age-group and sex were well reported (100% complete). Forty two (48.3%) reports were among the 15-44 year old age group, a further 25 (28.7%) reports were among the under 15 year age group, and 20 (23.0%) reports were from those aged over 44 years.

Females accounted for 60.7% of all reports. A similar proportion of males and females were reported among those aged 15-44 (52.4% females) and those over 44 years old (55.0 females). A higher proportion of females (64.0 females) were reported in the under 15 years age group.

Table 1. Laboratory reports of hepatitis A in England and Wales, October-December 2014

| Age group | Male | Female | Unknown | Total |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| <1 year | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1-4 years | 4 | 6 | 0 | 10 |
| 5-9 years | 3 | 4 | 0 | 7 |
| 10-14 years | 2 | 6 | 0 | 8 |
| 15-24 years | 6 | 6 | 0 | 12 |
| 25-34 years | 10 | 13 | 0 | 23 |
| 35-44 years | 4 | 3 | 0 | 7 |
| 45-54 years | 4 | 2 | 0 | 6 |
| 55-64 years | 2 | 3 | 0 | 5 |
| >65 years | 3 | 6 | 0 | 9 |
| Unknown | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 38 | 49 | 0 | 87 |

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

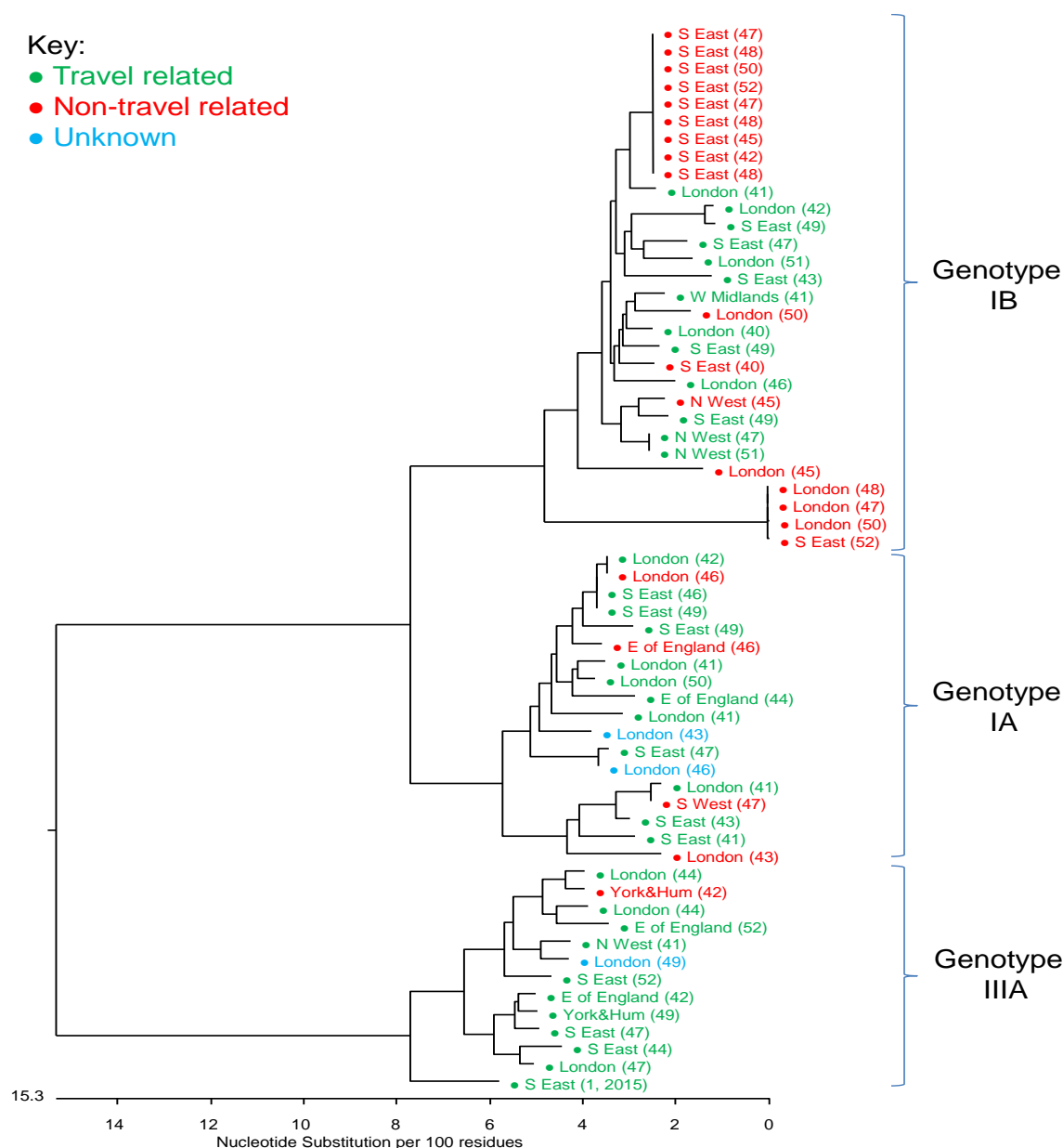


Reference laboratory confirmation and phylogeny of hepatitis A infection

Of the 88 patients notified as having acute HAV infection during the last quarter of 2014, 47 had samples forwarded to the Virus Reference Department for confirmation. Fifteen of the patients were not confirmed to have acute HAV infection. The remaining 32 patients were confirmed to have acute HAV infection. In addition 30 patients were confirmed to have acute HAV infection that had not been reported through the laboratory reporting system although they were recorded in HPzone.

A total of 62 patients could be genotyped over this period; 18 were genotype IA (29%), 30 were genotype IB (48.4%) and 14 were genotype IIIA (22.6%). Of these samples 37 were associated with travel (59.7%), 22 had no travel history (35.5%) and 3 had no information (4.8%). This information is presented as a phylogenetic tree. 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 October to December 2014 (n=62)



Laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England and Wales (October-December 2014)

There were a total of 2,922 laboratory reports of hepatitis C reported to the PHE between October and December 2014. There was a 12.7% increase in the number of reported cases compared to the third quarter of 2014 (n=2,593), and a 6.0% increase on the same quarter in 2013 (n=2,757).

Age-group and sex were well reported (>98% complete). Where known, males accounted for 67.3% of reports (1,952/2899), which is consistent with previous quarters. Adults aged 25-44 years accounted for 51.7% of the total number of hepatitis C reports.

Table 1. Laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England and Wales, October-December 2014

| Age group | Male | Female | Unknown | Total |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| <1 year | 2 | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| 1-4 years | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 5-9 years | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 10-14 years | 5 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| 15-24 years | 66 | 48 | 2 | 116 |
| 25-34 years | 436 | 244 | 8 | 688 |
| 35-44 years | 564 | 246 | 6 | 816 |
| 45-54 years | 510 | 203 | 2 | 715 |
| 55-64 years | 259 | 108 | 0 | 367 |
| >65 years | 105 | 90 | 0 | 195 |
| Unknown | 4 | 3 | 5 | 12 |
| Total | 1952 | 947 | 23 | 2922 |