



Infection report / Immunisation

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Laboratory reports of hepatitis A and C (England and Wales): January to March 2015

Laboratory reports of hepatitis A in England and Wales (January-March 2015)

There were a total of 92 laboratory reports of hepatitis A reported to Public Health England (PHE) during the first quarter of 2015 (January-March 2015). This was a 16.4% decrease on the number of reports during the fourth quarter of 2015 (n=110) and a 33.3% increase on the same quarter in 2014 (n=69).

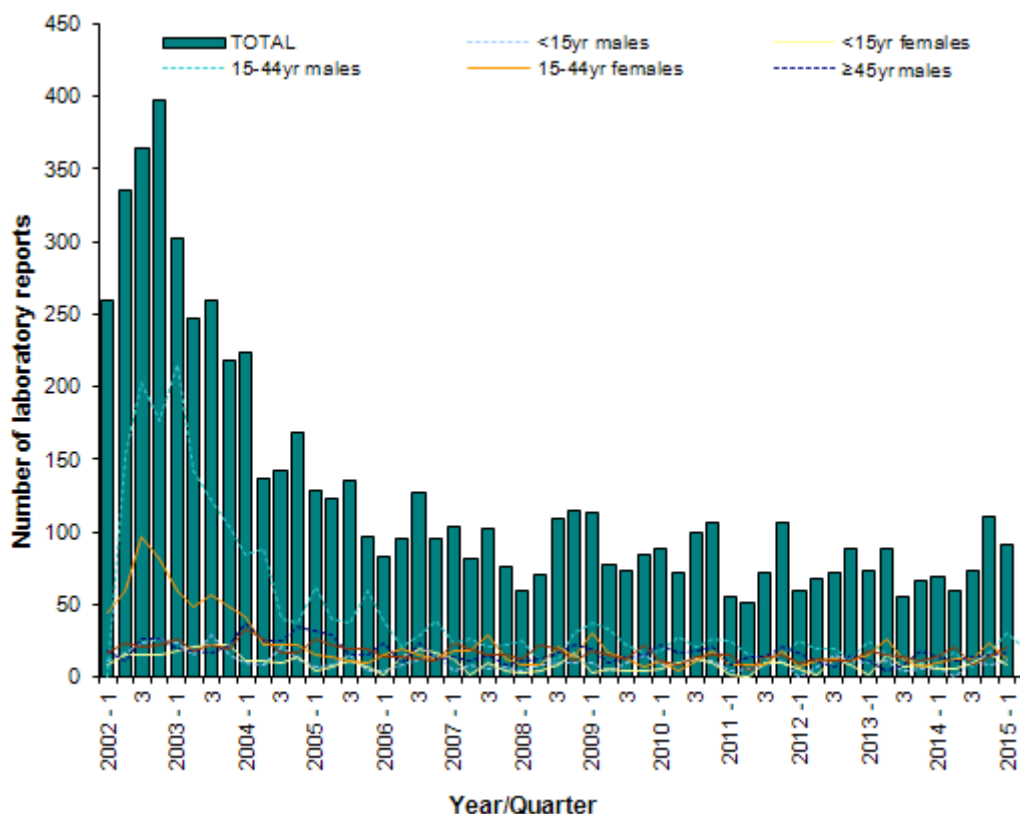
Age-group and sex were well reported (>98% complete). Thirty eight reports (41.8%) were among the over-44 years old age group, a further 33 reports (36.3%) were among those aged 15-44 years, and 20 reports (22.0%) were from those aged under 15 years.

Males accounted for 52.7% of all reports. A similar proportion of males and females were reported in the less-than-15-years of age group (55% males) and those aged 15-44 (60.6% males). A higher proportion of females (55.3% females) were reported in the over-45 years of age group.

Laboratory reports of hepatitis A in England and Wales, January-March 2015

Age group	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
<1 year	0	0	0	0
1-4 years	5	2	0	7
5-9 years	4	5	0	9
10-14 years	2	2	0	4
15-24 years	6	2	0	8
25-34 years	9	8	0	17
35-44 years	5	3	0	8
45-54 years	7	10	0	17
55-64 years	3	7	0	10
>65 years	7	4	0	11
Unknown	0	0	1	1
Total	48	43	1	92

Figure 1. Laboratory reports of hepatitis A by age and sex (England and Wales): Jan. 2002 to March 2015

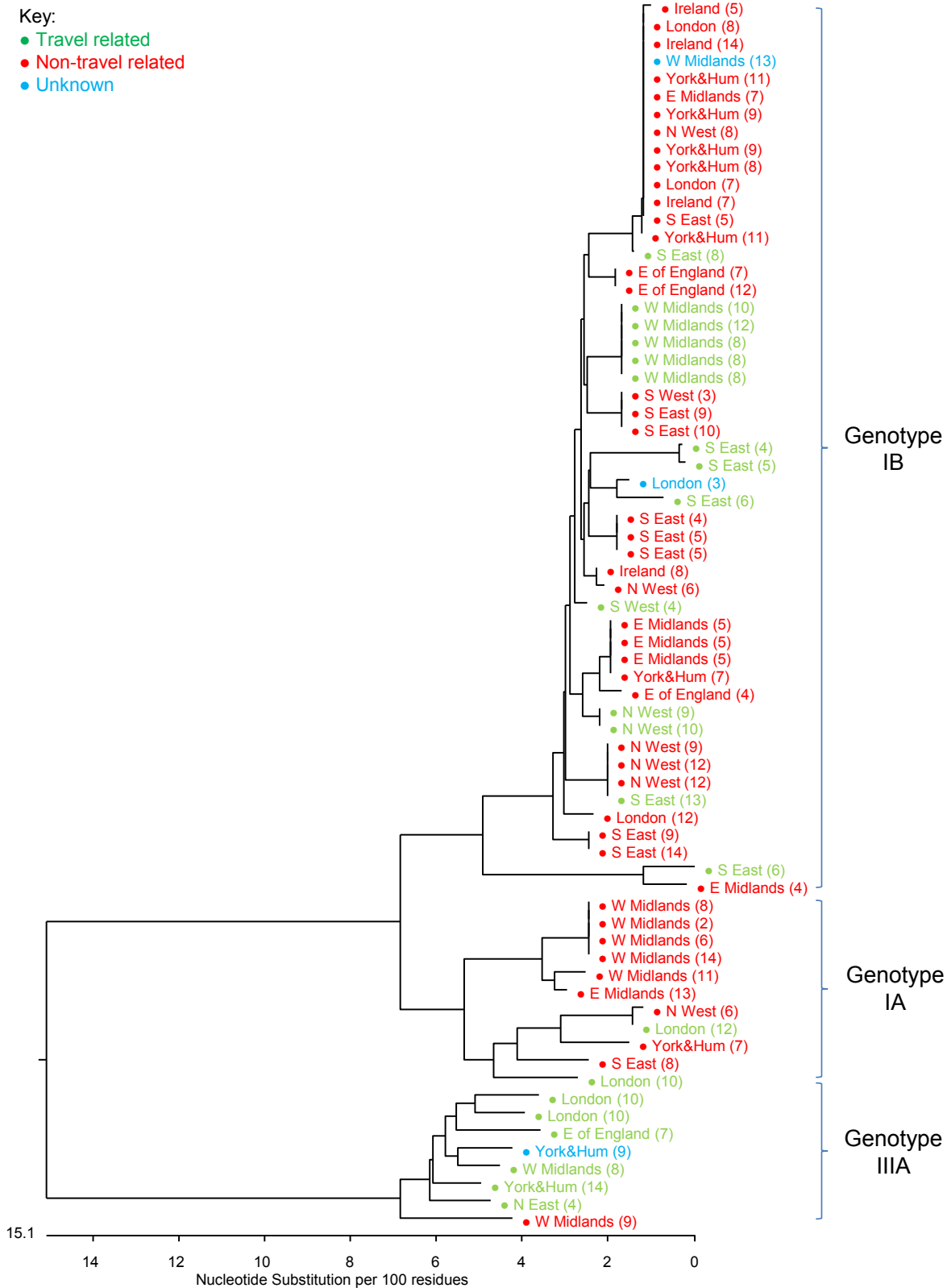


Reference laboratory confirmation and phylogeny of hepatitis A infection

Of the 92 patients notified as having acute HAV infection during the first quarter of 2015, 60 had samples forwarded to the Virus Reference Department for confirmation. Ten of the patients were not confirmed to have acute HAV infection. The remaining 50 patients were confirmed to have acute HAV infection. In addition 19 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 66 patients could be genotyped over this period; 11 were genotype IA (16.7%), 47 were genotype IB (71.2%) and eight were genotype IIIA (12.1%). Of these samples 22 were associated with travel (33.3%), 41 had no travel history (62.1%) and three had no information (4.5%). 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 January to March 2015 (n=70, including 4 sequence from Northern Ireland)



Laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England and Wales (January-March 2015)

There were a total of 2,689 laboratory reports of hepatitis C reported to the PHE between January and March 2015. There was an 8.0% decrease in the of number of reported cases compared to the fourth quarter of 2014 (n=2,922), and a 3.0% decrease on the same quarter in 2014 (n=2,782).

Age-group and sex were well reported (>98% complete). Where known males accounted for 70.3% of reports (1,868/2,656), which is consistent with previous quarters. Adults aged 25-44 years accounted for 51.4% of the total number of hepatitis C reports.

Laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England and Wales, January-March 2015

Age group	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
<1 year	5	5	0	10
1-4 years	1	0	1	2
5-9 years	5	2	0	7
10-14 years	0	1	1	2
15-24 years	70	39	5	114
25-34 years	379	215	5	599
35-44 years	574	195	7	776
45-54 years	507	171	3	681
55-64 years	246	91	2	339
>65 years	77	68	0	145
Unknown	4	1	9	14
Total	1,868	788	33	2,689