



## Infection report / Immunisation

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### Laboratory reports of hepatitis A and C (England and Wales): October-December 2015

#### Laboratory reports of hepatitis A in England and Wales (October-December 2015)

There were a total of 105 laboratory reports of hepatitis A reported to Public Health England (PHE) during the fourth quarter of 2015 (October-December 2015). This was a 7% decrease on the number of reports during the third quarter of 2015 (n=113) and a 5% decrease on the same quarter in 2014 (n=110).

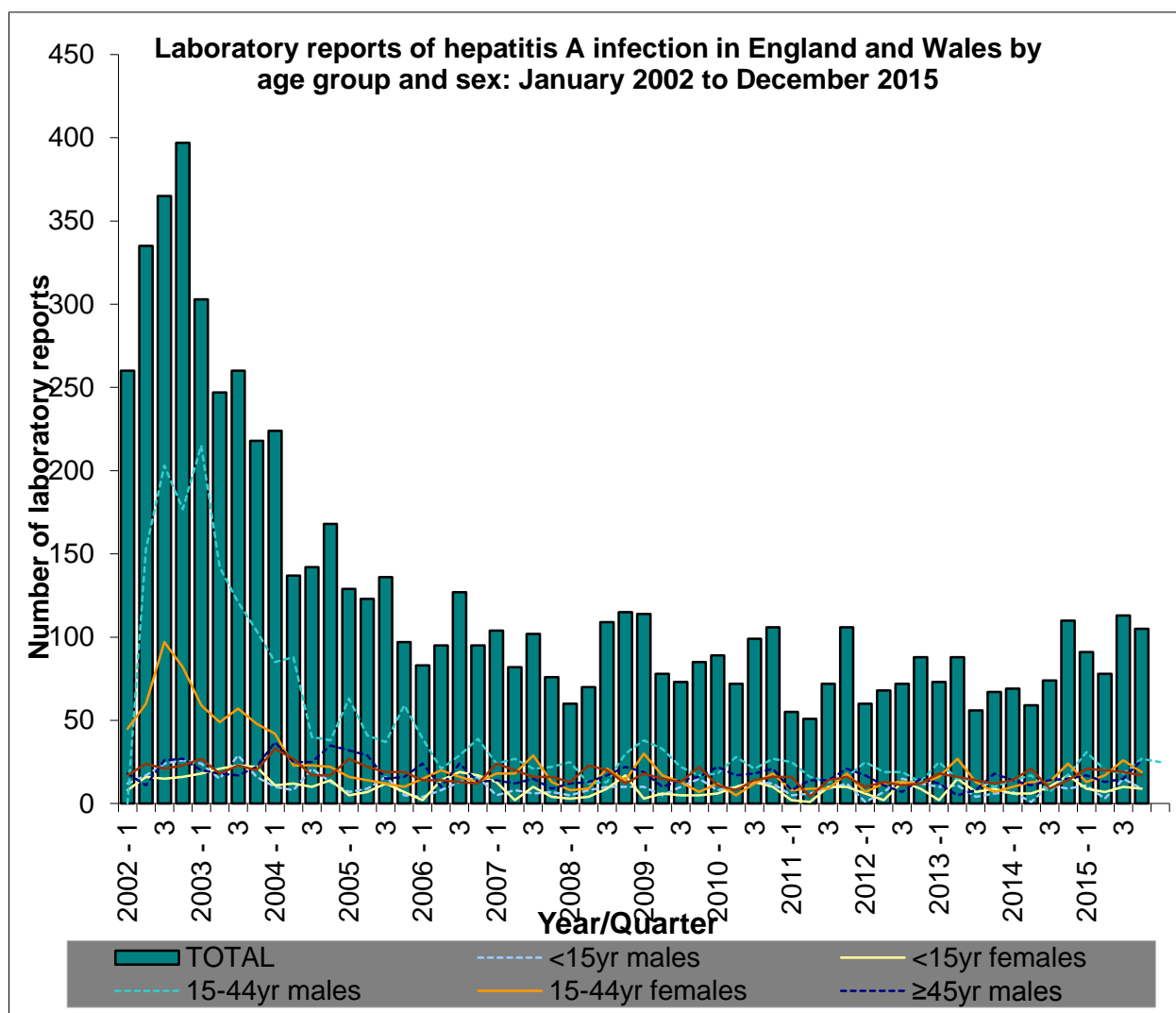
Age-group and sex were well reported (100% complete). Forty four (41.9%) reports were among those aged 15-44, a further 43 (41%) reports were among the over 44 years old-age group, and 18 (17.1%) reports were from the under 15 year age-group.

Males accounted for 58.8% of all reports. A similar proportion of males and females were reported in the over 45 years old group (60.5% males) and the 15-44 years age-group (56.8% males). An equal proportion of males and females (50%) was reported in the less than 15 years age-group.

**Table 1. Laboratory reports of hepatitis A in England and Wales, October-December 2015**

Age group	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
<1 year	0	0	0	0
1-4 years	0	3	0	3
5-9 years	6	4	0	10
10-14 years	3	2	0	5
15-24 years	13	4	0	17
25-34 years	9	8	0	17
35-44 years	3	7	0	10
45-54 years	14	5	0	19
55-64 years	6	7	0	13
>65 years	6	5	0	11
Unknown	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>105</b>

**Figure 1. Laboratory reports of hepatitis A by age and sex (England and Wales): 2002-2015**

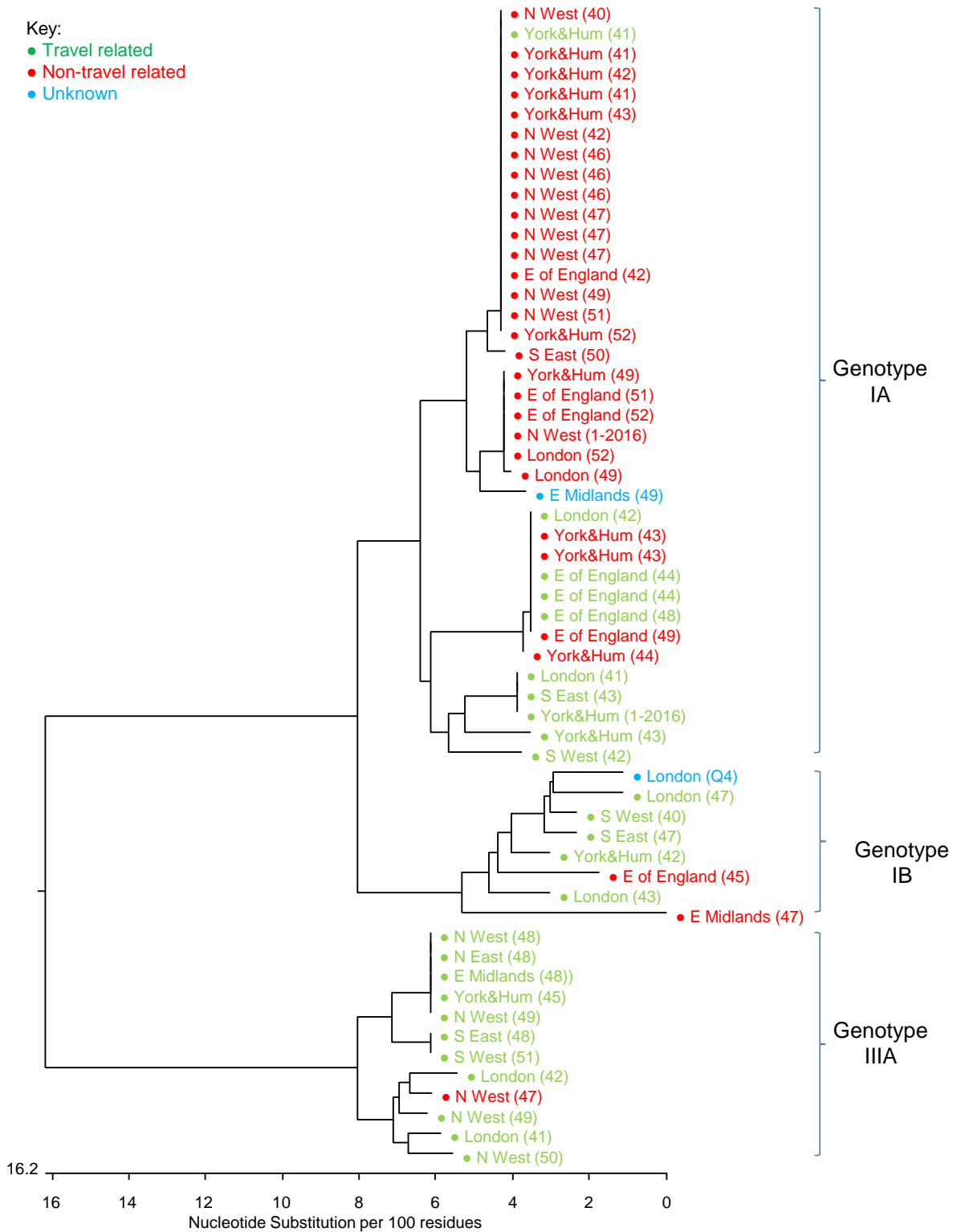


**Reference laboratory confirmation and phylogeny of hepatitis A infection**

Of the 105 patients notified as having acute HAV infection during the last quarter of 2015, 65 had samples forwarded to the Virus Reference Department for confirmation. Sixteen of the patients were not confirmed to have acute HAV infection. The remaining 49 patients were confirmed to have acute HAV infection. In addition, nine patients were confirmed to have acute HAV infection that had not been reported through the laboratory reporting system, with the exception of one, they were all recorded on HPzone.

A total of 58 patients could be genotyped over this period; 35 were genotype IA (60.3%), 11 were genotype IB (19%) and 12 were genotype IIIA (20.7%). Of these samples 26 were associated with travel (44.8%), 30 had no travel history (51.7%) and two had no information (3.5%). 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 October-December 2015 (n=58)**



## Laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England and Wales (October-December 2015)

There were a total of 2,942 laboratory reports of hepatitis C reported to PHE between October and December 2015. There was an 8.1% increase in the number of reported cases compared to the third quarter of 2015 (n=2,721), and a 0.7% increase on the same quarter in 2014 (n=2,922).

Age-group and sex were well reported (>98% complete). Where known males accounted for 70.1% of reports (2,036/2,904) which is consistent with previous quarters. Adults aged 25-44 years accounted for 50.2% of the total number of hepatitis C reports.

**Table 1. Laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England and Wales, October-December 2015**

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Unknown</b>	<b>Total</b>
<1 year	3	4	0	<b>7</b>
1-4 years	2	3	0	<b>5</b>
5-9 years	3	0	0	<b>3</b>
10-14 years	1	0	0	<b>1</b>
15-24 years	53	39	4	<b>96</b>
25-34 years	423	198	5	<b>626</b>
35-44 years	596	234	12	<b>842</b>
45-54 years	528	206	7	<b>741</b>
55-64 years	313	102	2	<b>417</b>
>65 years	102	81	1	<b>184</b>
Unknown	12	1	7	<b>20</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2036</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>2942</b>