



## Infection report / Immunisation

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### Laboratory reports of hepatitis A and C (England and Wales): October to December 2016

#### Laboratory reports of hepatitis A in England (October – December 2016)

There were a total of 98 laboratory reports of hepatitis A reported to Public Health England (PHE) during the fourth quarter of 2016 (October – December 2016). This is similar to the number of reports in the third quarter of 2016 (n=98) and a 6.6% decrease on the October to December quarter in 2015 (n=105).

Age-group and sex were well reported (100% complete). 40 (40.8%) reports were among those aged 15-44 years, 36 (36.7%) reports were among the 45-years-and-over age group and a further 22 (22.4%) reports were from the under-15-year age group.

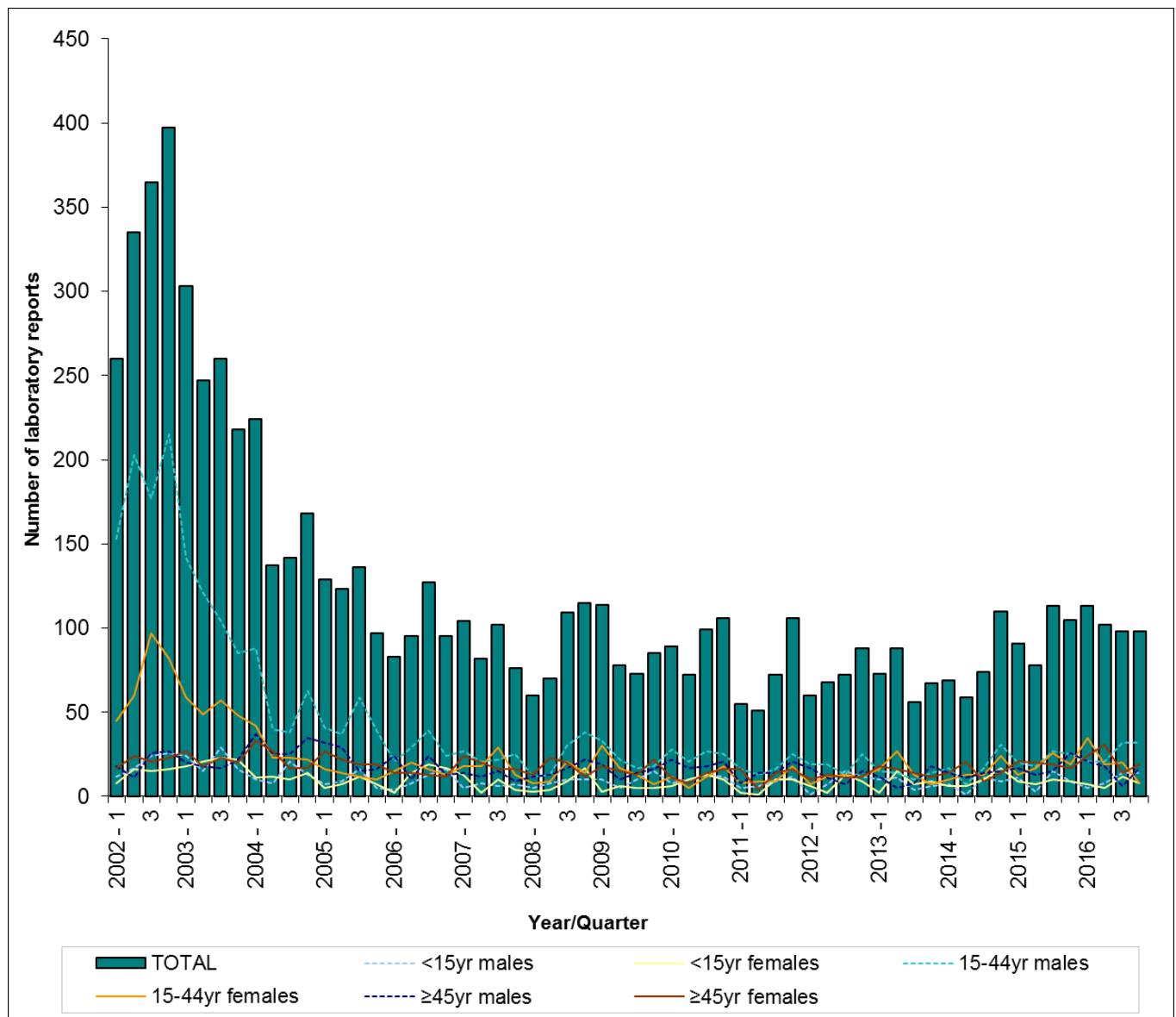
Males accounted for 64.3% of all reports. The majority of reports in the 15-44 years age-group were in males (80%). Males also accounted for the majority of reports in the under-15s (63.6%).

Females accounted for the majority of reports (52.6%) in the over-45-years age group.

**Table 1: Laboratory reports of hepatitis A in England, October – December 2016**

Age group	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
<1 year	–	–	–	–
1-4 years	4	–	–	4
5-9 years	6	5	–	11
10-14 years	4	3	–	7
15-24 years	9	3	–	12
25-34 years	15	2	–	17
35-44 years	8	3	–	11
45-54 years	5	4	–	9
55-64 years	4	9	–	13
>65 years	8	6	–	14
Unknown	–	–	–	–
Total	63	35	–	98

**Figure 1. Laboratory reports of hepatitis A by age and sex (England and Wales), October-December 2016\***



\*For 2016, data represents England only.

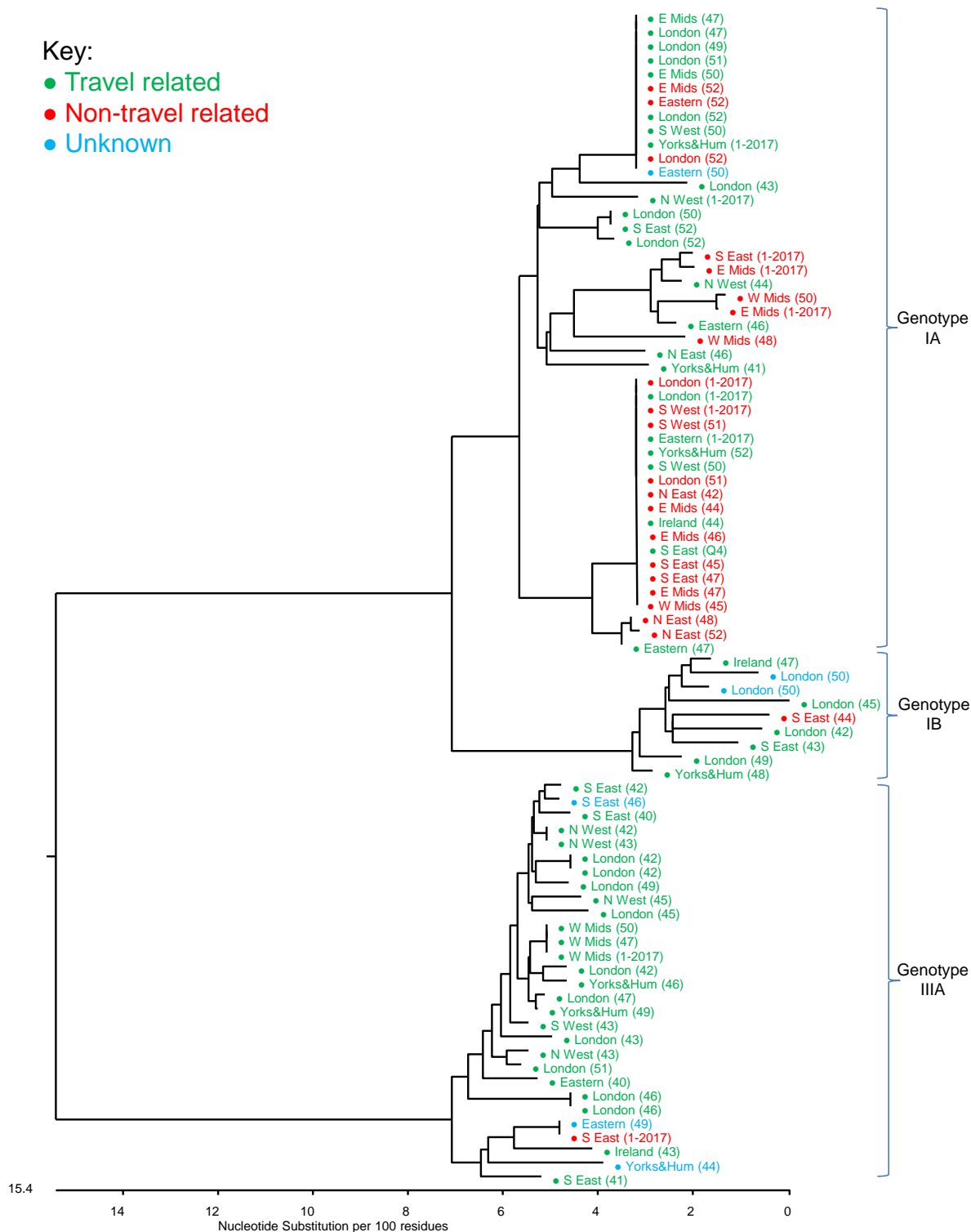
### Reference laboratory confirmation and phylogeny of hepatitis A infection

Of the 98 patients reported as having acute HAV infection during the last quarter of 2016, 70 had samples forwarded to the Virus Reference Department for confirmation. Fifteen of the patients were not confirmed to have acute HAV infection. The remaining 51 patients were confirmed to have acute HAV infection. In addition, 35 patients were confirmed to have acute HAV infection that had not been reported through the laboratory reporting system; three cases were from Northern Ireland and 32 cases were recorded in HPzone.

A total of 84 patients could be genotyped over this period; 46 were genotype IA (54.7%), nine were genotype IB (10.7%) and 29 were genotype IIIA (34.5%). Of these samples 55 were

associated with travel (65.5%), 24 had no travel history (28.6%) and five had no information (6%). 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 2016 (n=84)**



## Laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England, October – December 2016

Between October and December 2016 there were a total of 2,504 laboratory reports of hepatitis C reported to PHE. This was a 6.8% decrease in the number of reported cases compared to the third quarter of 2016 (n=2,686), and a 17.5% decrease on the April-to-June quarter in 2015 (n=2,942).

Age-group and sex were well reported (97.8% complete). Where known, males accounted for 68.6% (1684/2456) of reports which is consistent with previous quarters. Adults aged 25-44 years accounted for 50.3% of the total number of hepatitis C reports.

**Table 2: Laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England, October to December 2016**

Age group	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
<1 year	7	2	–	9
1-4 years	1	3	–	4
5-9 years	–	2	–	2
10-14 years	2	2	–	4
15-24 years	49	30	7	86
25-34 years	341	181	13	535
35-44 years	514	189	19	722
45-54 years	438	167	5	610
55-64 years	234	100	2	336
>65 years	94	95	–	189
Unknown	4	1	2	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1684</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>2504</b>