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Laboratory reports of *Haemophilus influenzae* by age group and serotype, England and Wales: January to March 2019

Health Protection Report
Volume 13 Number 18
28 May 2019

Laboratory reports of *Haemophilus influenzae* by age group and serotype, England and Wales: January to March 2019

In the first quarter of 2019 (January to March), there was a total of 223 laboratory confirmed cases of invasive *Haemophilus influenzae* (Hi) compared to 165 in the fourth quarter of 2018. During the same period in the previous year (January to March) there were 280 cases.

In the first quarter of 2019, 184 isolates underwent serotyping with 146 (79%) identified as non-capsulated *Haemophilus influenzae* (nHi); 33 (18%) were serotype a/e/f, and five (3%) were serotype b (Hib). This compared with 84% nHi, 13% a/e/f and 3% Hib during January to March 2018. Hib cases among those aged under 15 years remained stable at two in 2019 compared to one in 2018. Three cases of Hia, a previously rare serotype in England, were reported compared to zero cases in the first quarter of 2018 and four cases during the first quarter of 2017.

Age-group was well-reported (see table): 84% of all invasive Hi cases were aged 15 years and over; 6% were under one year of age; 6% were 1-4 years old; and 4% were 5-14 years old. The majority of cases with serotyped isolates in children under 15 years were nHi (n=21/26; 81%). This distribution was broadly similar to the first quarter of 2018, where: 82% were aged 15 years and over; 7.5% were under one year of age; 6% were among 1-4 year olds and 4% were among 5-14 year olds.

Age distribution laboratory-confirmed cases of *Haemophilus influenzae* by serotype, England and Wales, first quarter 2019 (and 2018)

| Serotype | Age-group | | | | | | | | | | Total: quarter 1 | |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|------------|----------|----------|------------------|------------|
| | <1y | | 1-4y | | 5-14y | | 15+ | | nk | | 2019 | 2018 |
| B | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 7 |
| nc | 8 | 18 | 9 | 11 | 4 | 7 | 125 | 143 | 0 | 0 | 146 | 179 |
| a,e,f | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 30 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 27 |
| not typed | 3 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 29 | 56 | 0 | 0 | 39 | 67 |
| Total | 14 | 21 | 13 | 18 | 9 | 11 | 187 | 230 | 0 | 0 | 223 | 280 |

* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

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About Health Protection Report

Health Protection Report is a national public health bulletin for England and Wales, published by Public Health England. It is PHE's principal channel for the dissemination of laboratory data relating to pathogens and infections/communicable diseases of public health significance and of reports on outbreaks, incidents and ongoing investigations.

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Published: **May 2019**

PHE publications

gateway number: **2018818**

PHE supports the UN

Sustainable Development Goals

