

Surveillance report.

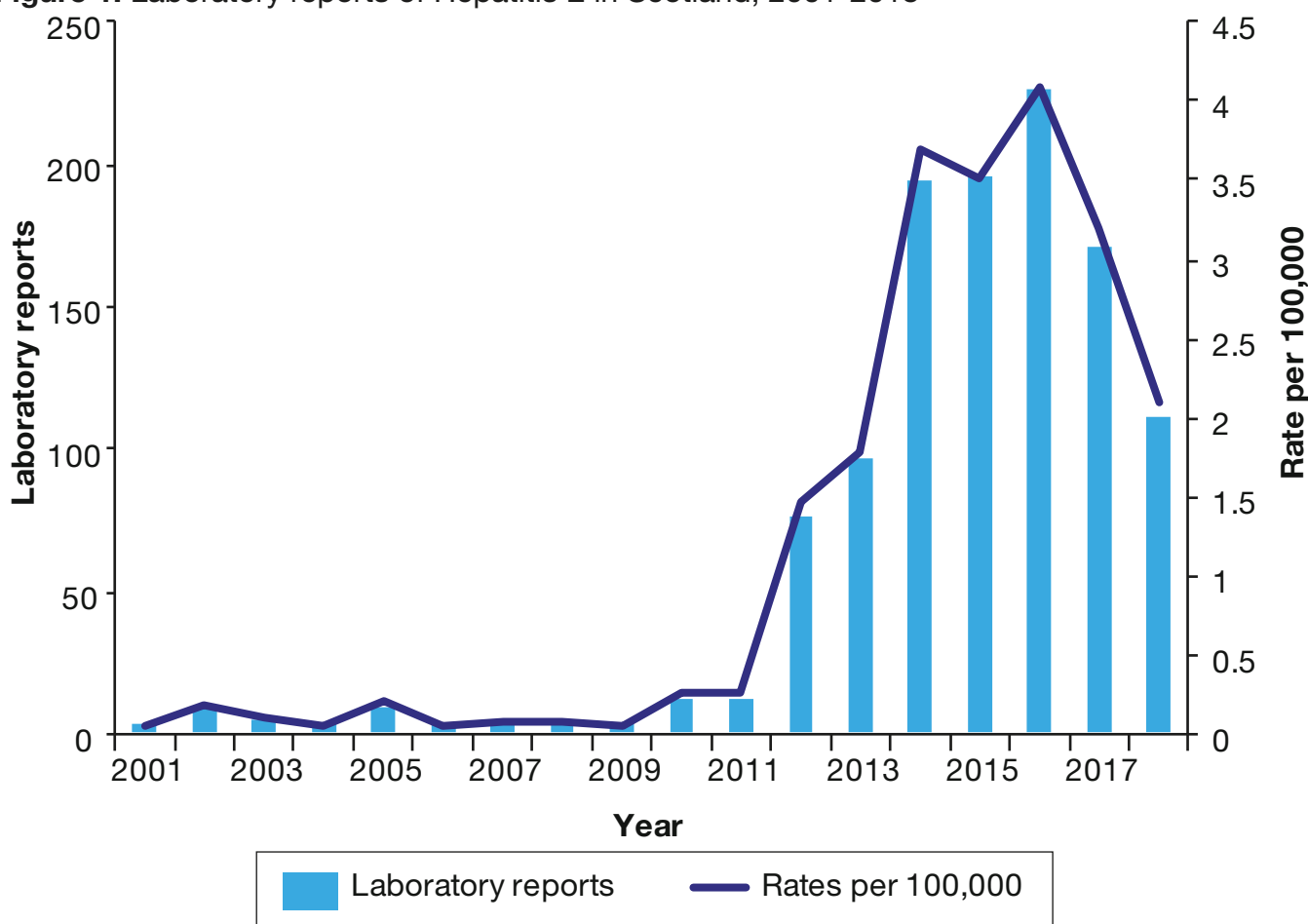
Annual surveillance report: Hepatitis E in Scotland, 2018

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Reports of hepatitis E (HEV) infection in Scotland have increased in recent years, as they have elsewhere in the UK. Laboratory reports of HEV in Scotland increased from 13 in 2011, to a peak of 226 in 2016 (Figure 1). It is likely that increased clinical recognition and testing of Hepatitis E has contributed to this increase observed since 2011. In 2018, HPS received 112 reports of HEV, with a rate of 2.1 cases per 100,000 population. This is a decline of 34.5% and 50.4% when compared with case numbers in 2017 and 2016 respectively (Figure 1).

Interestingly this recent decline has occurred despite the introduction of universal of screening by SNBTS of blood donations for HEV. Positive results from this screening are also included in the laboratory reports received by HPS.

Figure 1: Laboratory reports of Hepatitis E in Scotland, 2001-2018



HPS continues to work with colleagues in Food Standards Scotland, the Scottish Government, NHS boards and Public Health England to improve understanding of the epidemiology of HEV, including risk factors and exposures, to inform public health management and control.

HPS Surveillance Report

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