

Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

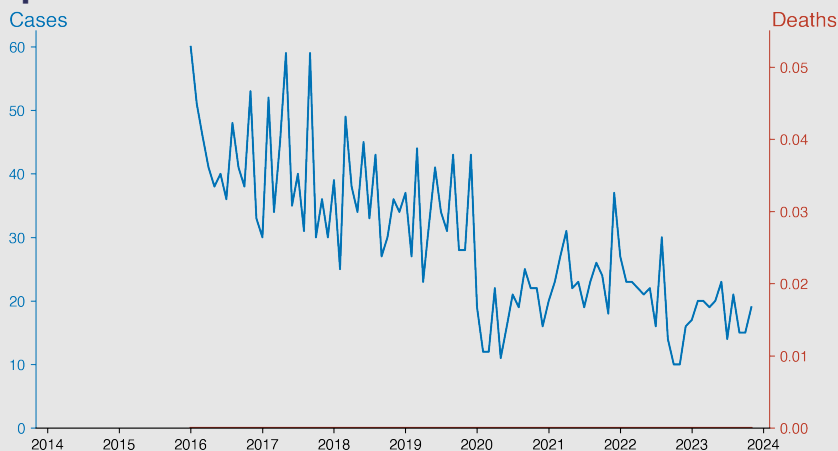
Hepatitis D

November 2023

Introduction

Hepatitis D, also known as delta hepatitis, is a liver infection caused by the Hepatitis D virus (HDV). This disease is unique as it can only occur in conjunction with Hepatitis B, making those with Hepatitis B particularly vulnerable. It leads to complications like cirrhosis, liver failure, and liver cancer. Transmission primarily occurs through direct contact with infected blood or bodily fluids, similar to HIV and Hepatitis B or C. Prevention can be achieved through Hepatitis B vaccination, as there is no vaccine specifically for Hepatitis D.

Temporal Trend



Highlights

- Declining Trend: Cases have decreased significantly, from 60 in January 2016 to approximately 20 monthly in 2023.
- Zero Mortality: No deaths have been reported during the period, indicating successful management and control measures.
- Case Stabilization: Post-2020, case numbers have stabilized between 10-30 cases monthly, suggesting effective ongoing public health interventions.
- Effective Prevention: The steady low case numbers may reflect the impact of Hepatitis B vaccination, which indirectly prevents Hepatitis D.

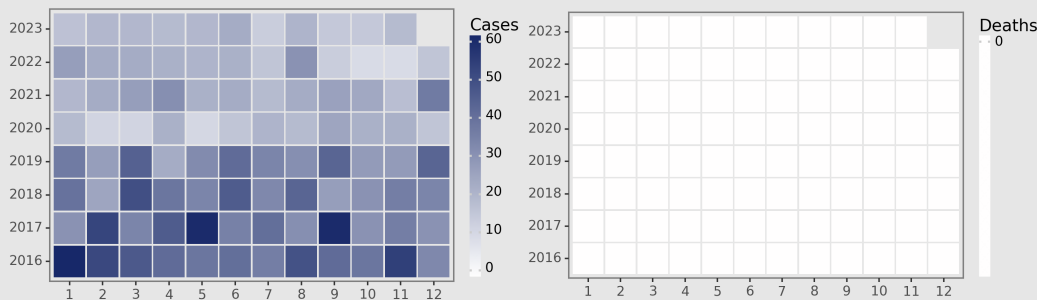
Cases Analysis

The data spanning from January 2016 to November 2023 for Hepatitis D in mainland China reveal a general downward trend in reported cases. Initially fluctuating between 30 and 60 cases per month, a marked decline commences in 2020, stabilizing to under 30 cases monthly. The lowest count occurs in October and November 2022 with 10 cases. Characteristically, there are minor peaks often seen in the earlier months of each year, suggesting possible seasonal variation; nonetheless, there is no significant resurgence, indicating effective disease control or reporting changes.

Deaths Analysis

Throughout the observed period, reported deaths due to Hepatitis D are consistently zero, indicating either an exceptionally low fatality rate or potential underreporting of mortality associated with the disease. The absence of reported deaths could also imply the successful management of the condition through effective treatment protocols and possible vaccination against Hepatitis B (since Hepatitis D occurs only as a co-infection with Hepatitis B). Nonetheless, the data cannot be incontrovertibly interpreted without considering the quality of diagnosis, reporting practices, and access to healthcare services.

Distribution



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