

Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

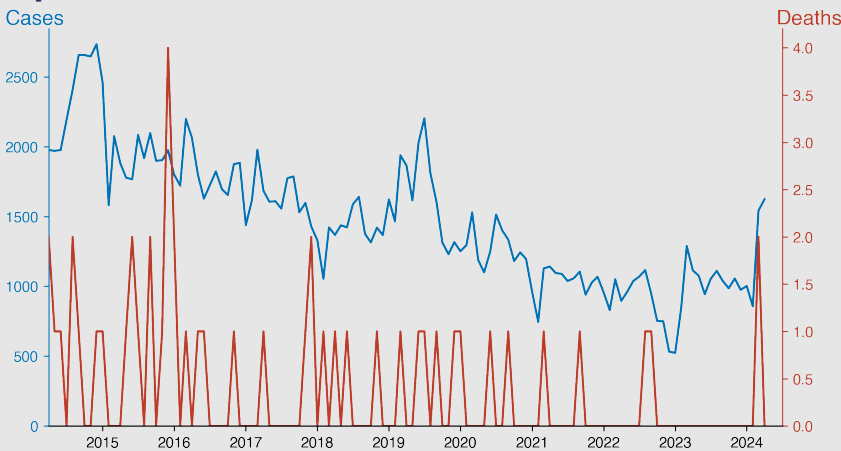
Hepatitis A

April 2024

Introduction

Hepatitis A is a highly contagious liver infection caused by the Hepatitis A virus (HAV). It usually spreads through the ingestion of food or water contaminated by feces from an infected person. Symptoms often include fatigue, nausea, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, and jaundice. However, not everyone shows symptoms. Vaccination can prevent the disease and is particularly recommended for those at high risk or traveling to areas with high prevalence. Proper sanitation, hand hygiene, and safe food practices are primary preventive measures. It is self-limiting and does not lead to chronic disease.

Temporal Trend



Highlights

- Over the ten-year span (2014-2024), Hepatitis A cases in mainland China show a general declining trend.
- The number of recorded deaths due to Hepatitis A remained consistently low, indicating the disease has a low fatality rate.
- Hepatitis A's annual cycle demonstrates a mild seasonal pattern, with some elevation in cases typically seen between April and September.
- As of April 2024, a significant rise in Hepatitis A cases is observed compared to the previous months of the same year, yet no deaths were reported.

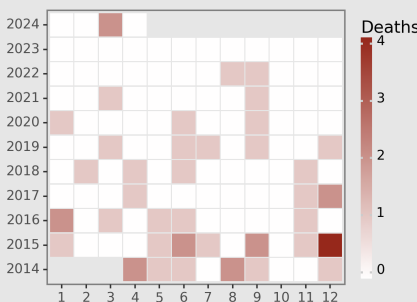
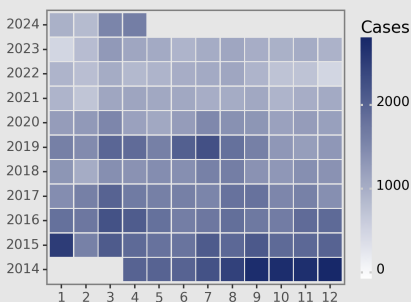
Cases Analysis

The data reflects 119 Hepatitis A cases reported from April 2014 to April 2024 in Chinese mainland. It shows an overall downtrend over the decade. Initial numbers in 2014 were high with up to 2733 cases reported in December. However, over the years, it's seen a reduction to around ~1000 cases per month. Notably, there were occasional spikes such as in March 2024 with 1542 cases, suggesting that occasional outbreaks still occur. It's critical to maintain surveillance to manage and further reduce the disease incidence. (110 words)

Deaths Analysis

Over the ten-year span from 2014 to 2024, Hepatitis A-associated deaths remained comparatively low in mainland China, with no month recording more than 4 deaths. A general trend of decreasing fatalities was observed despite some fluctuations. The highest number of deaths, which was 4, occurred in December 2015. The data shows occasional instances of zero deaths in a month, becoming more frequent in recent years. Starting from 2020, most months recorded no fatalities, with rare exceptions of single death instances. The most recent data from March 2024 shows an unexpected increase to 2 deaths.

Distribution



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