United Kingdom

Population (January 2013):	63 905 297
Human development Index (2013):	0.892
HAV vaccine recommendations:	Hepatitis A vaccine is not part of the routine childhood immunisation programme. Vaccination is recommended to: 1. people travelling to countries at high or intermediate endemicity 2. patients with chronic liver disease 3. haemophiliacs 4. MSM 5. PWID 6. People with occupational exposure, e.g. laboratory staff, sewage workers 7. close contacts for outbreak control.
Seroprevalence studies by quality score:	*score 0:* 5 study; *score 1:* 5 study; *score 2:* 5 studies
Seroprevalence study timeframe:	1985–2003

Seroprevalence assessment: **very low**
Incidence assessment: **very low**
Susceptibility in adults: **high**

One study (Scott 1989) reported a seroprevalence level of 66% in 1988 in the age group 30–39 years; in the same period other studies (Gay 1994, Tettmar 1987, Bernal 1996) reported seroprevalence levels of less than50% by 30 years of age. All studies conducted from 1990 to 2003 reported seroprevalence levels below 30% by 30 years of age. Therefore, the UK should be considered a country with a very low endemicity level that probably transitioned to such a level during the 1980s.

UK_table 1. Hepatitis A seroprevalence level by time period

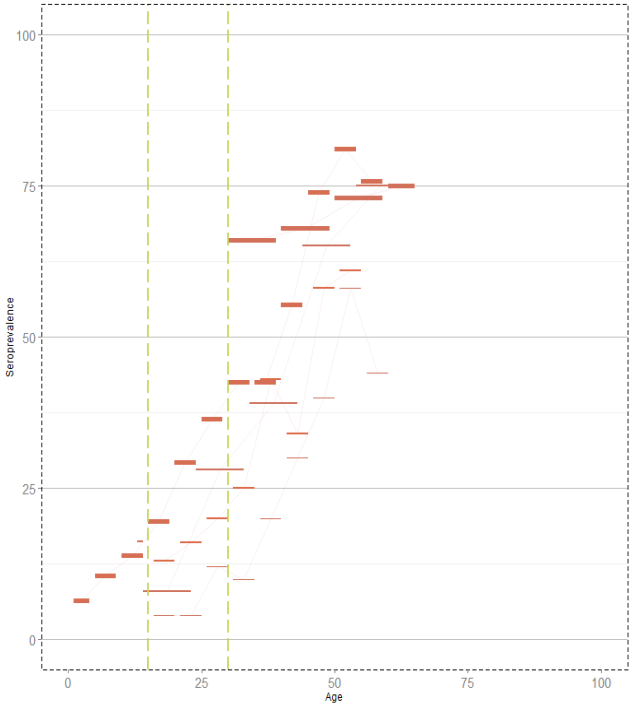
	Very low endemicity	Low endemicity	Intermediate endemicity
1975–1989			
1990–1999			
2000–2013			

Reported hepatitis A incidence has been below 5 cases per 100 000 since 1995, with no evidence of large outbreaks. Since 2004 it remains around 1 case per 100 000. The current level of incidence is in line with the very low endemicity level assessed through seroprevalence surveys.

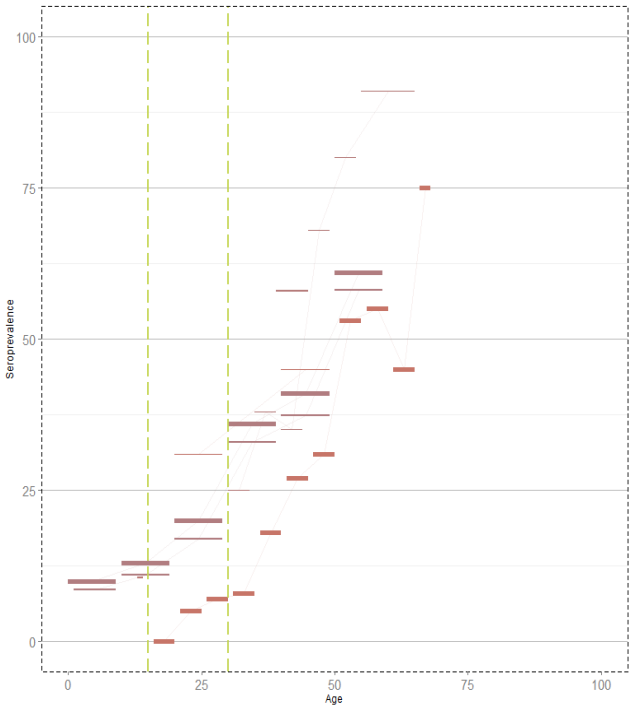
In 2000, the susceptibility was estimated to be above 60% by the age of 30 and in the 1990s around 40% at the age of 50. Considering the current very low seroprevalence in young adults and the incidence picture of the past years, the susceptibility in adults may be considered high at the present time.

United_Kingdom_Figure 1 (panel a). Summary of seroprevalence in the UK, by age and time period.

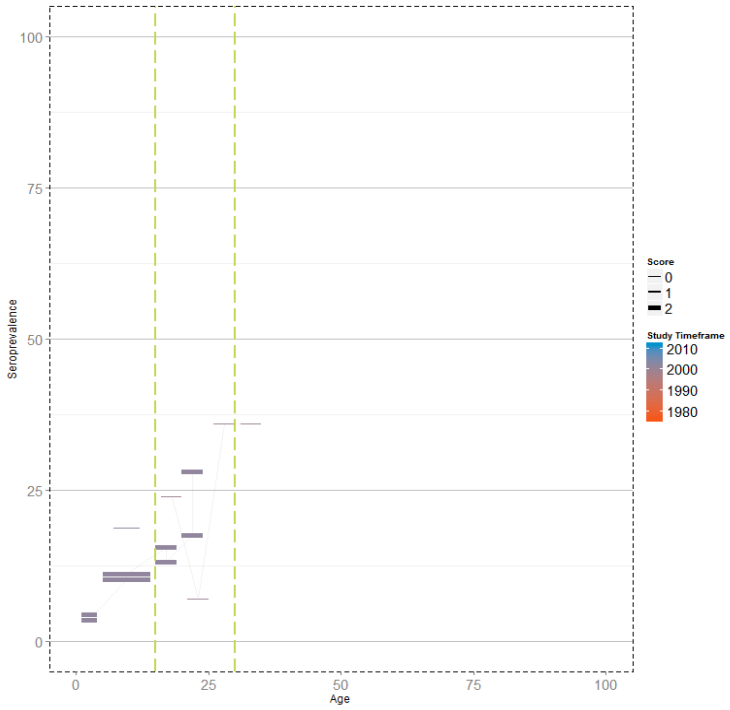
Panel a.1: 1975–1989



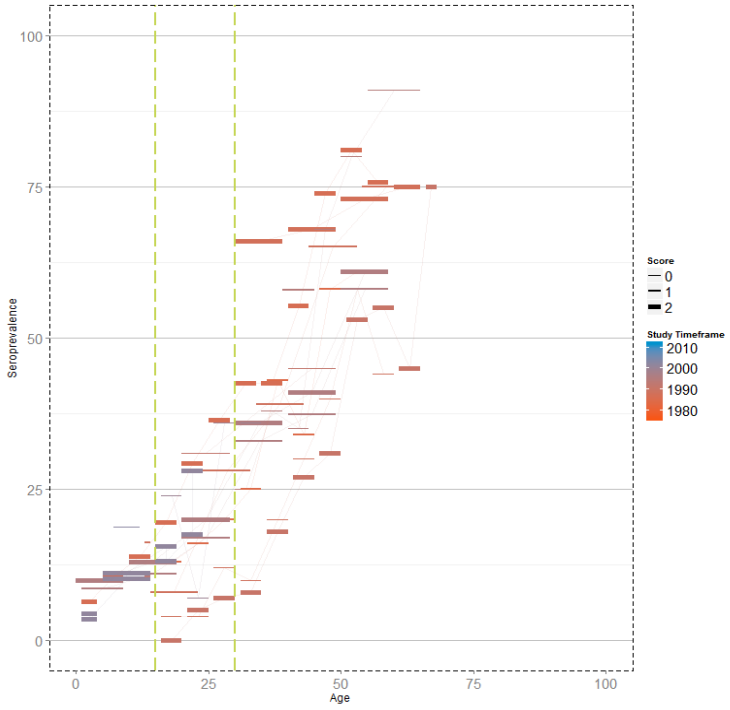
Panel a.2: 1990–1999



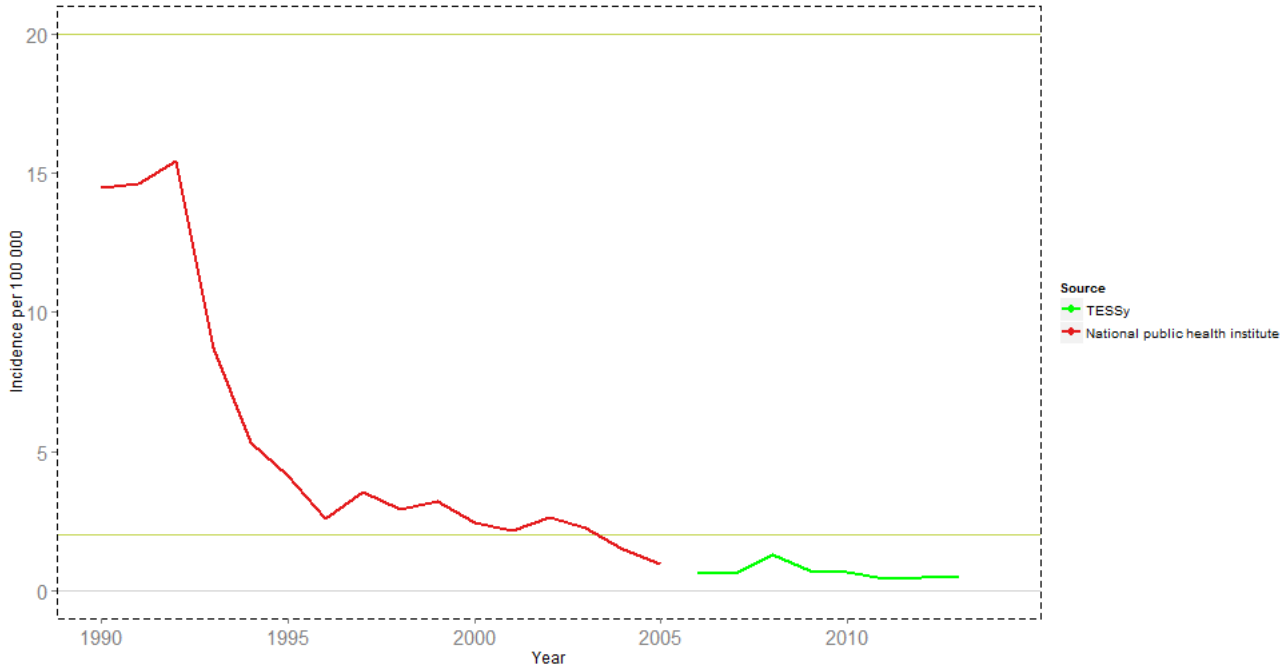
Panel a.3: 2000–2013



United_Kingdom_Figure 1 (panel b). Summary of seroprevalence in the UK, by age and time period (1975-2013). .



United_Kingdom_Figure 2. Reported incidence of hepatitis A, UK, 1989–2013



National data source: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england

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