

台灣流感速訊

Taiwan Influenza Express

Taiwan Centers for Disease Control. | 2008-2009 Influenza Season | Week: 1 (2008/12/28-2009/1/3), 2009 |

Taiwan Influenza Surveillance :

1. The consultation rates for ILI (Influenza-Like Illness) reported by sentinel physicians for the week 1 in 2009 was higher than the mean of previous 3 weeks, with the percentage rates for the past 4 weeks being 3.23、3.20、3.19、3.36, respectively, as shown in Fig. 1. It was higher than the mean of previous 3 weeks by 4.9 %, which was lower than the same period in 2007-2008.
2. Comparing to the mean of previous 3 weeks, the consultation rate decreased in Northern region and increased in rest of 5 regions of Taiwan.
3. The dominant respiratory virus identified by National Influenza Center and CDC Collaborating Labs in these 6 weeks was type AH3, as shown in Fig. 2.

Conclusion : The influenza surveillance for week 1 indicated that the epidemiological trends in Taiwan were higher than the mean of previous 3 weeks. Influenza AH3 was the dominant viruses in this flu season. In last 6 weeks, AH3 is the dominant type, but the isolation of B has increased progressively.

Worldwide Influenza Surveillance :

1. **Asia :** In Hong Kong, the weekly consultation rate for ILI reported by general practitioners for week 52 (12/21-12/27) was 27.6%, which was lower than the previous week and lower than the same period of last year. Since 2008, influenza A was the dominant viruses. In Japan, the number of ILI cases reported by sentinel physicians was 4.68 for week 51 (12/15-12/21), which was higher than the previous week, but lower than the same period of last year. Influenza A was the dominant viruses in this flu season.
2. **U.S. /Canada :** In USA, during week 52 (12/21-12/27), a low level of influenza activity. The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was below the epidemic threshold. The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI was below national and region-specific baseline levels. Three states reported regional influenza activity and ten states reported local influenza activity; the District of Columbia and 30 states reported sporadic influenza activity. The dominant strain in 2008-2009 was influenza A. In Canada, during week 52, low levels of influenza activity. The ILI consultation rate was lower than previous week (15 ILI consultations per 1,000 patient visits), which is below the expected range for this week. The sentinel response rate was 47%. Of the influenza detections to date, 56% were influenza A and 44% were influenza B.
3. **Europe :** EISS indicated that in week 52(12/22-12/28) widespread influenza activity was reported in England, France, Northern Ireland and Portugal, regional influenza activities was reported in Netherlands, Spain and Wales, local influenza activities was reported in Italy, sporadic influenza activities was reported in 5 countries (Belgium, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland,) with no activity or no report in the rest countries.
4. **WHO Flu-net :** Global flu surveillance showed that in week 50 (accessed on Jan 10, 2009) there were regional outbreak in Japan, local outbreak in Portugal, USA and sporadic in Norway, Peru, Belgium, Mongolia, Madagascar, Slovenia, Switzerland, Tunisia, Italy, China, Belarus, Cameroon, Sri Lanka, Finland, France, Germany, Luxembourg and Russian Federation; the rest areas were no activity or no report.

Conclusion : Influenza activity of high intensity is in some countries in Europe.

Global Distribution of Influenza by WHO FLU-NET

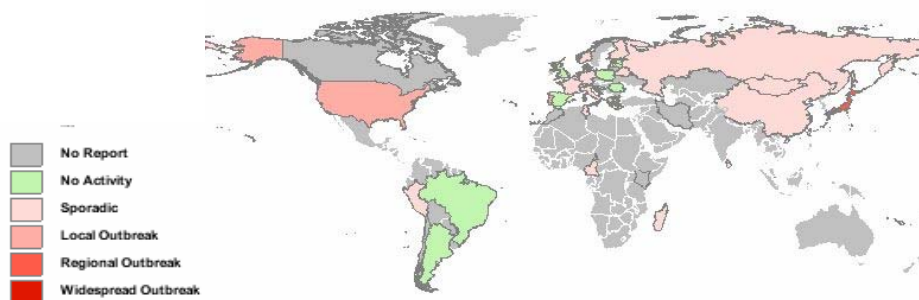


Fig.1 Percentage of Visits by ILI Cases as Reported by Sentinel Physicians

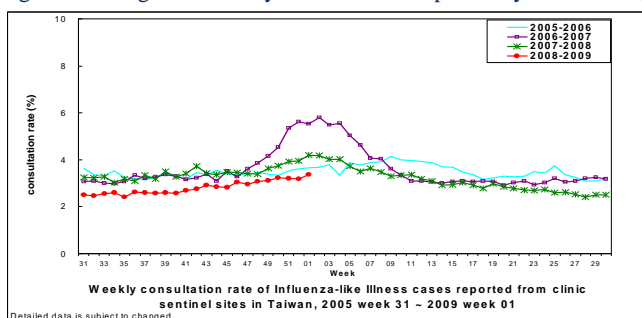
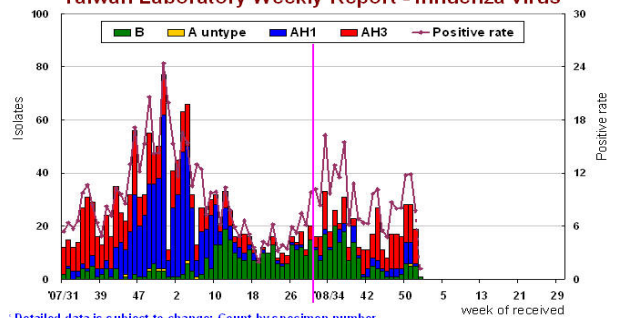


Fig2. Laboratory Summary
Taiwan Laboratory Weekly Report - Influenza virus



References :

Global epidemiological situation of influenza: WHO Flu-net, USA-CDC, CANADA-PHAC, EUROPE-EISS, JAPAN-IASR, HK DOH.
Taiwan epidemiological situation of ILI: Taiwan CDC. For more info, surf <http://www.cdc.gov.tw>, <http://flu.cdc.gov.tw>
The Influenza Express published weekly by Taiwan CDC informs you of the latest information on local and global influenza activities.