



Summary : Week 15 (Apr. 6 – Apr. 12, 2014)

Influenza activity remained decreased in Taiwan during week 15, 2014. Among the circulating viruses in Taiwan, the predominant virus subtype was influenza B virus.

- The percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza was 21.3% during week 13, 2014. 53.2% of these positive specimens were influenza B viruses.
- During week 15, 2014, there were 46 new cases and 13 reports of death from complicated influenza infection. Since July 1, 2013, there were 562 cases received the intensive care and 136 reports of death among 1645 cases of complicated influenza infection.
- The weekly proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) decreased steadily recently. The trend of weekly proportion of emergency room visits for ILI was stable recently.

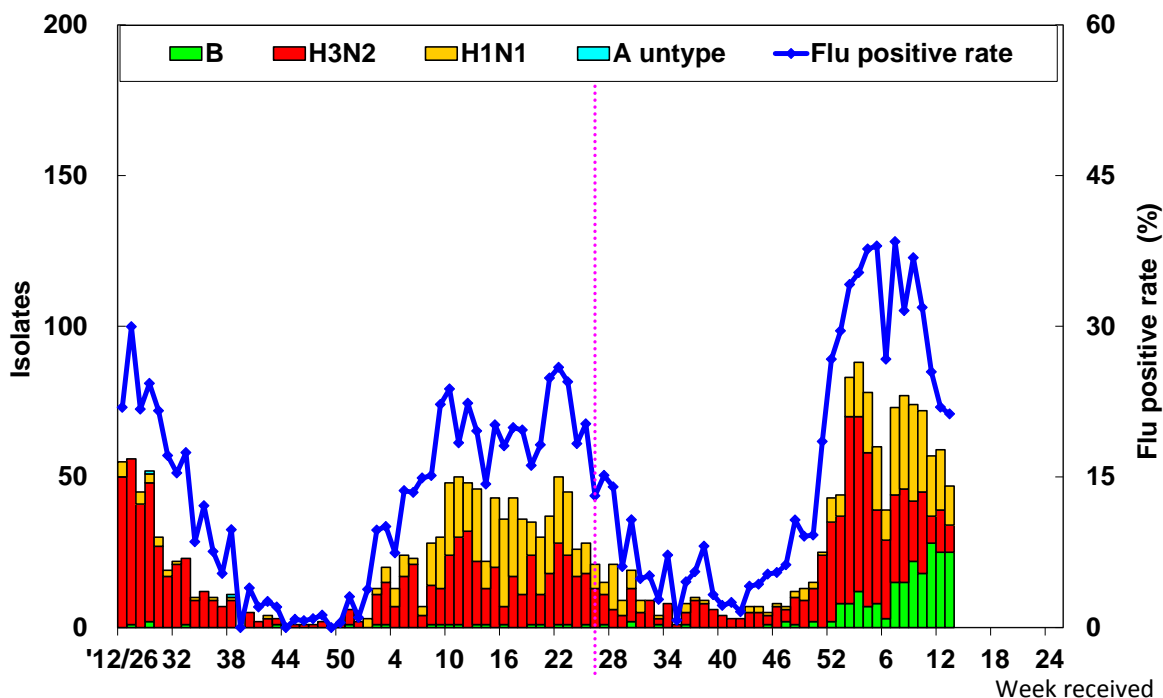
Viral Surveillance

	Data for week 13, 2014	Cumulative data since 7/1/2013
Number of specimens tested	221	6754
Number of positive specimens (%)	47(21.3)	1152(17.1)
Positive specimens by type/subtype (%)		
Influenza A (% of all positive specimens)	22(46.8)	945(82)
A (H1N1) (% of all Influenza A)	13(59.1)	333(35.2)
A (H3N2)	9(40.9)	612(64.8)
A (unable to subtype)	0(0)	0(0)
A (subtyping not performed)	0(0)	0(0)
Influenza B	25(53.2)	207(18)



Antigenic Characterization: Taiwan CDC has antigenically characterized 214 human influenza viruses. since October 1, 2013. 100% influenza A (H1N1) viruses tested were related to the A (H1N1) component of the 2013-14 influenza vaccine (A/California/7/2009pdm09). 98% of the influenza A (H3N2) viruses tested were related to the A (H3N2) component of the 2013-14 influenza vaccine (A/Victoria/361/2011). 28% influenza B virus tested was related to the B component of the 2013-14 trivalent influenza vaccine (B/Massachusetts/2/2012).

Influenza positive tests reported to Taiwan CDC by contracted laboratories, 2012–2014



Antiviral Resistance: Since October 1, 2013, 21 influenza A (H1N1) viruses, 32 influenza A (H3N2) viruses and 2 influenza B viruses have been tested for resistance to the neuraminidase inhibitors (oseltamivir). The results of antiviral resistance testing performed on these viruses are summarized in the table below.

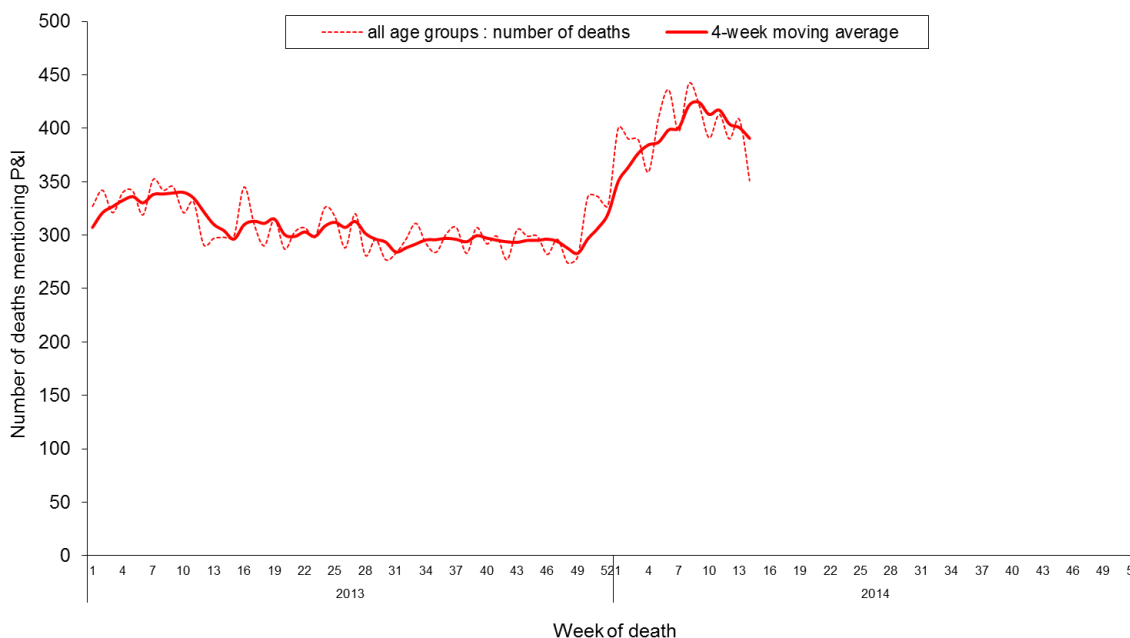
	Isolates tested (n)	Resistance Viruses, n (%)
		Oseltamivir
Influenza A (H1N1)	21	0
Influenza A (H3N2)	32	0
Influenza B	2	0



Pneumonia and influenza (P&I) mortality surveillance

Since week 8, 2014, the trend of P&I has decreased steadily. The number of deaths related to P&I for adults of 65 or greater is the highest among the three age groups (0–49, 50–64, and 65⁺).

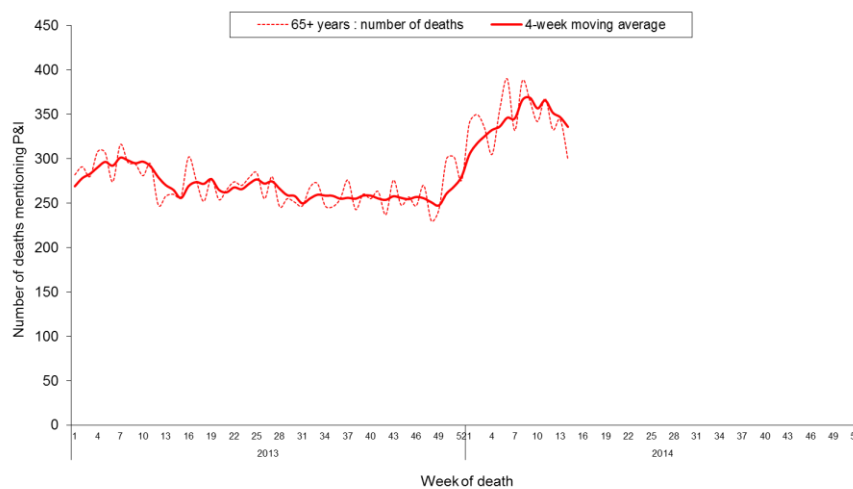
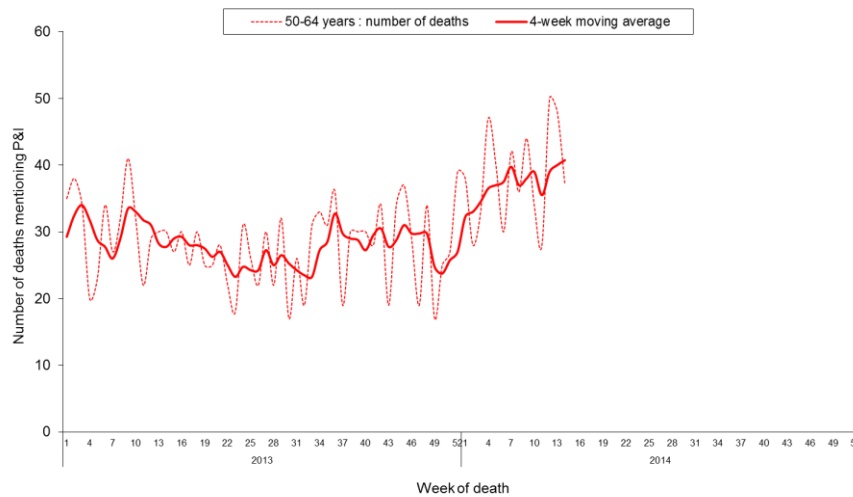
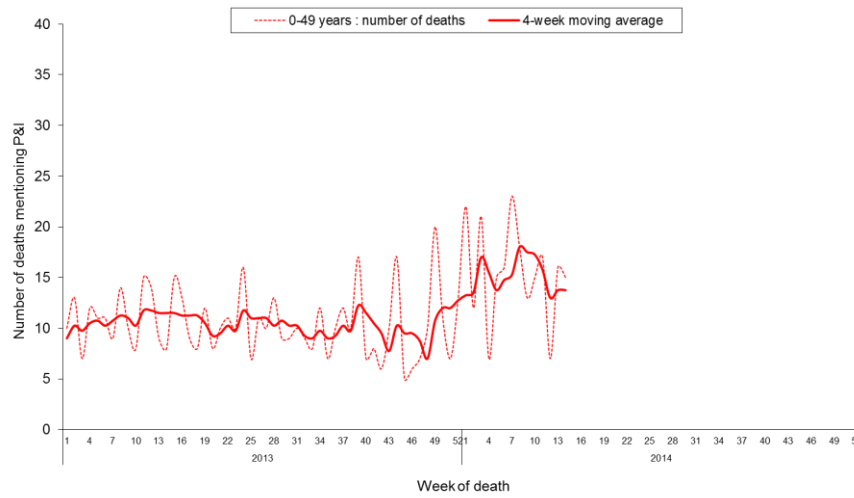
National pneumonia and influenza mortality Week ending at April 5, 2014



* Medical institutions were required to report any mortality case to Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW) within 7 days after a death certification is issued through the Internet System for Death Reporting (ISDR). The last field of immediate cause or the underlying cause of death was used to identify P&I death cases. Only those with keywords texts containing 'pneumonia', 'influenza' or 'common cold' were counted as a P&I death. Since January 1, 2014, the ISDR has been improved in coverage.



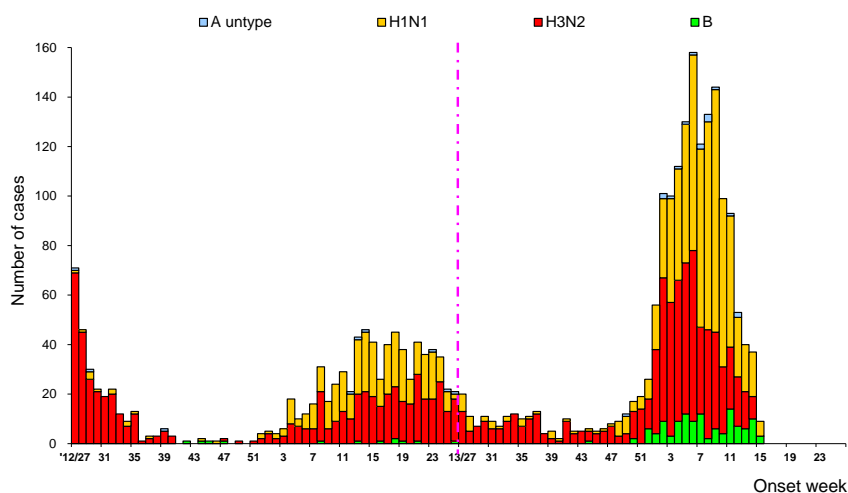
National pneumonia and influenza mortality by age group Week ending at April 5, 2014



Reports of complicated influenza*

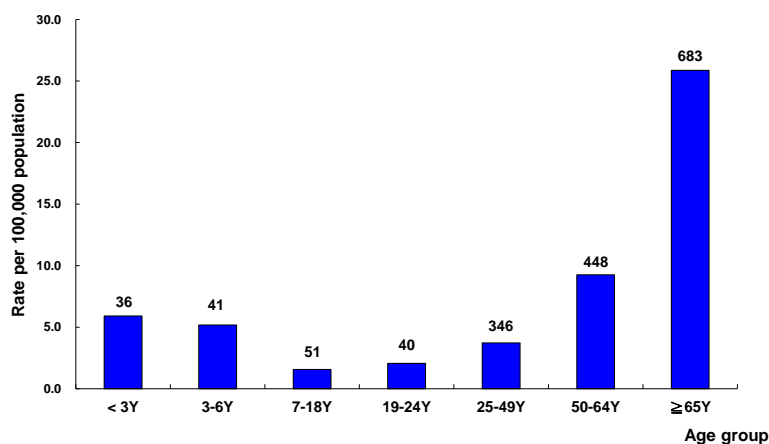
During week 15, 2014, there were 46 new cases of complicated influenza, including 20 cases with influenza A (H1N1) virus infection, 12 cases with influenza A (H3N2) virus infection and 14 cases with influenza B virus infection; 13 reports of death from complicated influenza, including 10 cases with influenza A (H1N1) virus infection, 3 cases with influenza A (H3N2) virus infection. Since July 1, 2013, 1645 cases of complicated influenza infection have been confirmed, including 780 cases from influenza A (H1N1) virus infection, 729 cases from influenza A (H3N2) virus infection, 16 cases due to un-typed influenza A virus infection, 119 cases from influenza B virus infection and 1 case with both A (H1N1) and A (H3N2) viruses infection. 562 cases of complicated influenza infection received the intensive care. Since July 1, 2013, there have been 136 reports of death from complicated influenza infection; 88 cases from influenza A (H1N1) virus infection, 43 cases from influenza A (H3N2) virus infection, 1 case from un-typed influenza A virus infection and 4 cases from influenza B virus infection respectively.

Number of complicated influenza reports by week of onset July 1, 2012 to present



*Defined as influenza infection with pulmonary complication, neurologic complication, myocarditis, pericarditis, invasive bacterial infection requiring hospitalization, intensive care or resulting in deaths.

Rate of complicated influenza reports by age groups July 1, 2013 to present



*Numbers represent number of complicated influenza reports for that specific age stratum.



Outpatient and Emergency Room Influenza-like Illness Surveillance

Nationwide during week 15, 2014, 1.43% of outpatient visits reported through the National Health Insurance Database were due to influenza-like illness (ILI), a 7.1% decrease compared with the proportion of previous week (1.54%).

The proportion of emergency room (ER) visits for ILI was 12.51%, which was comparable to the proportion of previous week (12.86%).

Proportions of outpatient and emergency room (ER) visits for influenza-like illness (July 1, 2012 to present)

