



台灣流感速訊

Taiwan Influenza Express

Taiwan Centers for Disease Control | 2008-2009 Influenza Season | Week 17, Apr. 19 ~ Apr. 25, 2009

Taiwan Influenza Surveillance:

1. The consultation rate for ILI (Influenza-Like Illness) reported by sentinel physicians for the week 17 in 2009 was 1.8% higher than the mean of previous 3 weeks, which was lower compared to the same period in 2007-2008. The percentage rates for the past 4 weeks being 2.52, 2.36, 2.30, and 2.43, respectively, as shown in Fig. 1.
2. Comparing to the mean of previous 3 weeks, the consultation rate increased in 2 regions (Taipei, Northern) and decreased in the rest 4 regions of Taiwan.
3. The dominant influenza virus identified by National Influenza Center and CDC Collaborating Labs in last 6 weeks was type AH1, as shown in Fig. 2.

Conclusion: The influenza surveillance for week 17 indicated that the epidemiological trend in Taiwan was higher than the mean of previous 3 weeks. Influenza AH1 was the dominant viruses in this flu season.

Worldwide Influenza Surveillance:

1. **Asia:** In Hong Kong, the weekly consultation rate for ILI reported by general practitioners for week 16 (2009/4/12-2009/4/18) was 36.6%, which was lower than the previous week and the same period of last year. Since 2009, influenza A was the dominant viruses. In Japan, the number of ILI cases reported by sentinel physicians was 4.06 for week 15 (2009/4/6-2009/4/12), which was lower than the previous week but higher than the same period of last year. Influenza A was the dominant viruses in this flu season, but influenza B had been progressively increased.
2. **U.S./Canada:** In USA, during week 15 (2009/4/12-2009/4/18), influenza activity continued to decrease. 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. Nine states reported regional influenza activity, 17 states reported local influenza activity, the District of Columbia and 22 states reported sporadic influenza activity. The dominant strain in 2008-2009 was influenza A, but influenza B had been progressively increased. In Canada, during week 15 (2009/4/12-2009/4/18), influenza activity continued to decline. The ILI consultation rate was lower than previous week (22 ILI consultations per 1,000 patient visits), which was within the expected range for this week. The sentinel response rate was 59%. Of the influenza detections to date, influenza A was the dominant virus.
3. **Europe:** EISS indicated that in week 16 (2009/4/13-2009/4/19) local influenza activities were reported in Croatia, Estonia, Netherlands, Russian Federation and Slovakia, sporadic influenza activities were reported in 10 countries and 1 region, with no activity or no report in the rest countries. The dominant strain in 2008-2009 was influenza A, but influenza B had been progressively increased.
4. **WHO Flu-net:** Global flu surveillance showed that in week 16 (accessed on May 4, 2009) there were local outbreaks in Russian Federation, Estonia and UK, sporadic outbreaks in Tunisia, Poland, Slovenia, Romania, China, Latvia, Italy, USA and France; the rest areas were no activity or no report.

Conclusion: The trend of influenza activities has been decreasing worldwide in general, though some parts are more serious than others.

Global Distribution of Influenza by WHO FLU-NET

(WHO FLU-NET can't generate interactive map.)

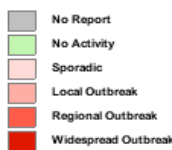


Fig.1 Percentage of Visits by ILI Cases as Reported by Sentinel Physicians

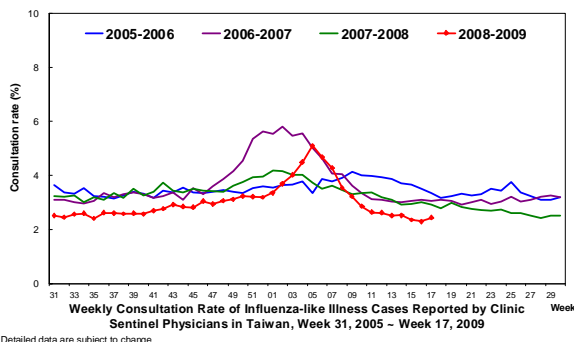
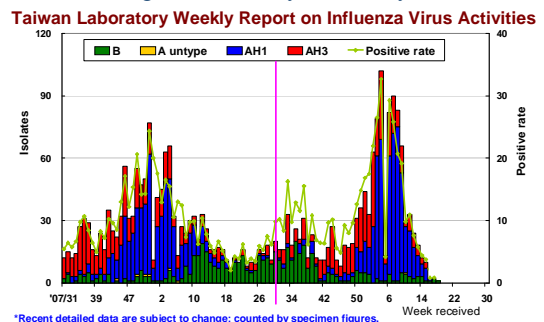


Fig2. Laboratory Summary



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> or <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.