

台灣流感速訊

Taiwan Influenza Express

Taiwan Centers for Disease Control | 2008-2009 Influenza Season | Week 7, Feb. 8 ~ Feb. 14, 2009

Taiwan Influenza Surveillance:

1. The consultation rate for ILI (Influenza-Like Illness) reported by sentinel physicians for the week 7 in 2009 was lower than the mean of previous 3 weeks, with the percentage rates for the past 4 weeks being 4.49, 5.08, 4.68, and 4.28, respectively, as shown in Fig. 1. It was 10% lower than the mean of previous 3 weeks, which was higher compared to the same period in 2007-2008.
2. Comparing to the mean of previous 3 weeks, the consultation rate increased in eastern region and decreased in the rest 5 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 7 indicated that the epidemiological trend in Taiwan was lower than the mean of previous 3 weeks. Influenza AH3 was the dominant viruses in this flu season. However, AH1 was the dominant type over last 6 weeks. Currently influenza activity in Taiwan is local.

Worldwide Influenza Surveillance:

1. **Asia:** In Hong Kong, the weekly consultation rate for ILI reported by general practitioners for week 6 (2009/2/1-2009/2/7) was 49.0%, which was higher than the previous week and the same period of last year. From January to December in 2008, influenza A was the dominant viruses. In Japan, the number of ILI cases reported by sentinel physicians was 35.62 for week 5 (2009/1/26-2009/2/1), 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.
2. **U.S. /Canada:** In USA, during week 5 (2009/2/1-2009/2/7), an increasing level of influenza activity was reported. The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was below the epidemic threshold. The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI was above national and region-specific baseline levels. Sixteen states reported widespread influenza activity, 16 states reported regional influenza activity, 14 states and the District of Columbia reported local influenza activity, Puerto Rico and 4 states reported sporadic influenza activity. The dominant strain in 2008-2009 was influenza A. In Canada, during week 5 (2009/2/1-2009/2/7), an increasing level of influenza activity was reported. The ILI consultation rate was lower than previous week (21 ILI consultations per 1,000 patient visits), which is below the expected range for this week. The sentinel response rate was 64%. Of the influenza detections to date, influenza A was the dominant virus, but influenza B had been progressively increased.
3. **Europe:** EISS indicated that in week 6 (2009/2/2-2009/2/8) widespread influenza activities were reported in Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland, regional influenza activities were reported in Latvia, Poland and Romania, local influenza activities were reported in Greece, Lithuania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain and Ukraine, sporadic influenza activities were reported in 3 countries and 3 regions, with no activity or no report in the rest countries.
4. **WHO Flu-net:** Global flu surveillance showed that in week 6 (accessed on Feb. 23, 2009) there were widespread outbreaks in Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Denmark, Slovenia, USA, Switzerland and Tunisia, regional outbreaks in Greece, Romania, Israel, Poland, Latvia, Croatia, Estonia and France, local outbreaks in UK and Russian Federation, sporadic outbreaks in Italy, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, China, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Spain and Turkey; the rest areas were no activity or no report.

Conclusion: Influenza activity of high intensity is in most countries of Europe and the USA.

Global Distribution of Influenza by WHO FLU-NET

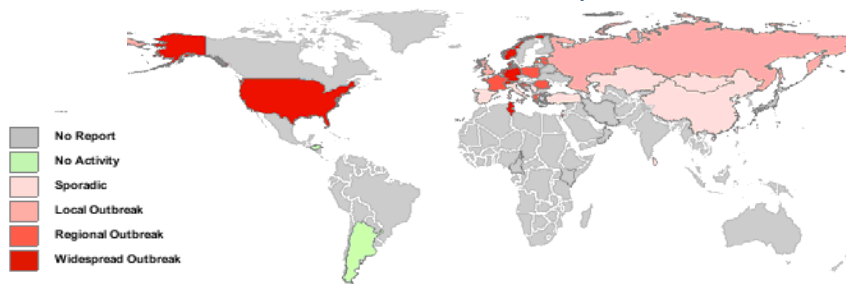
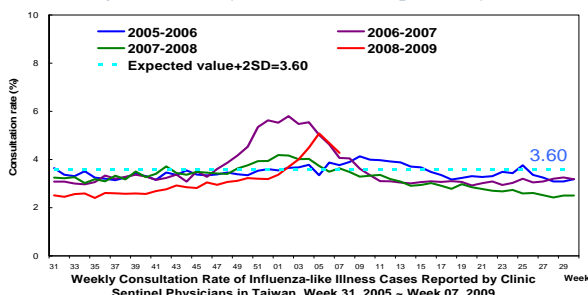


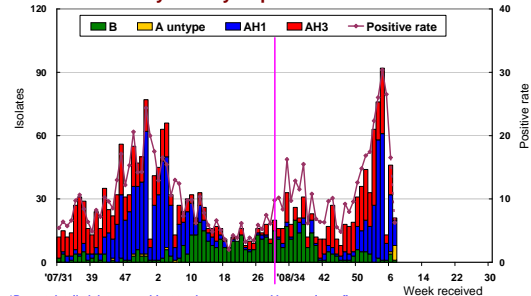
Fig.1 Percentage of Visits by ILI Cases as Reported by Sentinel Physicians



Detailed data are subject to change

Fig2. Laboratory Summary

Taiwan Laboratory Weekly Report on Influenza Virus Activities



*Recent detailed data are subject to change; counted by specimen figures.

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.