



Summary : During week 5 (January 30–February 5, 2011)

Influenza activity in Taiwan peaked at week 4; however, the rate of emergency room visits for influenza-like illness continued to increase because clinics had been closed over the Chinese New Year holidays. The rate of emergency room visits for influenza-like illness is expected to decrease gradually when clinics reopen after the holidays. Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus is predominant in community.

Most of the influenza viruses match the 2010–11 vaccine component.

- Of the 750 specimens tested during week 3–week 5, 376 (50%) were positive for influenza viruses, 250 (33%) were positive for pandemic (H1N1) 2009 viruses, 106 (14%) were positive for influenza B viruses, 11 (2%) were positive for influenza A (H3N2) viruses and 9 (1%) were positive for influenza virus untyped A.
- There were 174 new complicated influenza infections during week 5, including 146 complicated pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases, 2 seasonal H3N2 cases, 20 seasonal influenza A untyped cases and 6 seasonal influenza B cases. Since July 1, 2010, there have been 1,316 reports of complicated influenza infections, including 663 reports of complicated pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus infections (one patient is co-infected with pandemic [H1N1] 2009 virus and seasonal influenza virus type H3N2) and 576 reports of seasonal influenza virus type H3N2 infections. Since July 1, 2010, there have been 59 reports of death from complicated influenza infection; 30 from the pandemic H1N1 2009 and 28 from the seasonal H3N2 strain and 1 from the seasonal influenza B strain, respectively.
- The number of deaths related to pneumonia and influenza during week 4 was 357, which was above the average number during the past 3 weeks (327 deaths).
- The rate of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness is 2.34%, an 9% increase compared with the previous week (2.14%).
- The rate of emergency room visits for influenza-like illness is 26.03%, a 30% increase compared with the previous week (19.98%).

Virologic surveillance

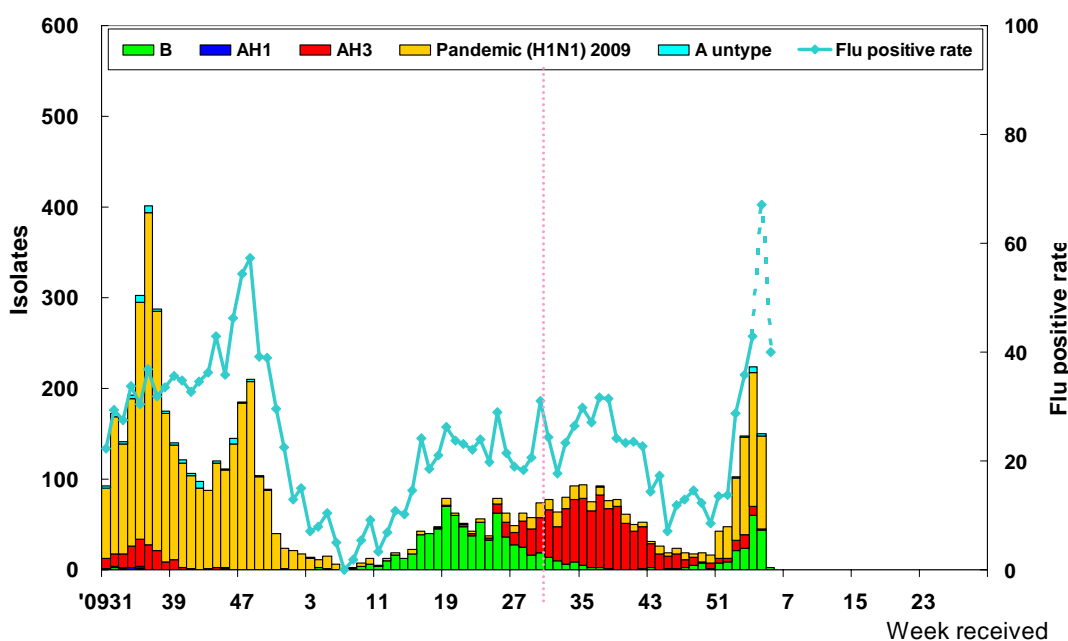
The results of tests performed during the past 3 weeks are summarized in the table below.

	Data for weeks 03–05	Cumulative data since 7/1/2010
Number of specimens tested	750	8,550
Number of positive specimens (%)	376(50)	2083(24)
Positive specimens by type/subtype (%)		
Influenza A (% of all positive specimens)	270(72)	1722(83)
A (pandemic [H1N1] 2009) (% of all Influenza A)	250(93)	721(42)
A (H3)	11(4)	989(57)
A (H1)	0(0)	0(0)
A (unable to subtype)	9(3)	12(1)
A (subtyping not performed)	0(0)	0(0)
Influenza B	106(28)	361(17)



Antigenic characterization: Taiwan CDC has antigenically characterized 219 human influenza viruses [126 influenza A (H3), 44 pandemic (H1N1) 2009, 49 influenza B] since July 1, 2010. One hundred and twenty-five (99%) of the influenza A (H3N2) viruses tested were related to the A (H3N2) vaccine component (A/Perth/16/2009). Forty-two (95%) of the pandemic (H1N1) 2009 viruses tested were related to the A/California/07/2009 vaccine component. Forty-three (88%) of the influenza B viruses tested belonged to the B/Victoria lineage and were related to the B component of the 2010–11 influenza vaccine (B/Brisbane/60/2008) .

Influenza positive tests reported to Taiwan CDC by contracted laboratories, 2009–2011



Antiviral resistance: Since July 1, 2010, 258 influenza A (H3N2), 75 pandemic (H1N1) 2009 and 7 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.

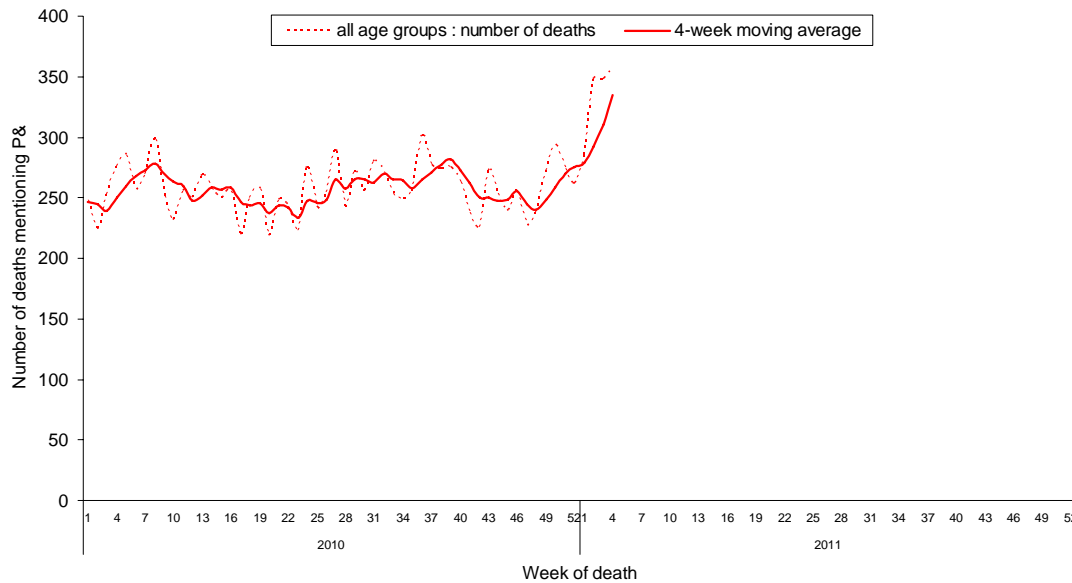
	Isolates tested (n)	Resistance Viruses, n (%)
		Oseltamivir
A (H3)	258	0 (0)
A (pandemic [H1N1] 2009)	75	0 (0)
B	7	0 (0)



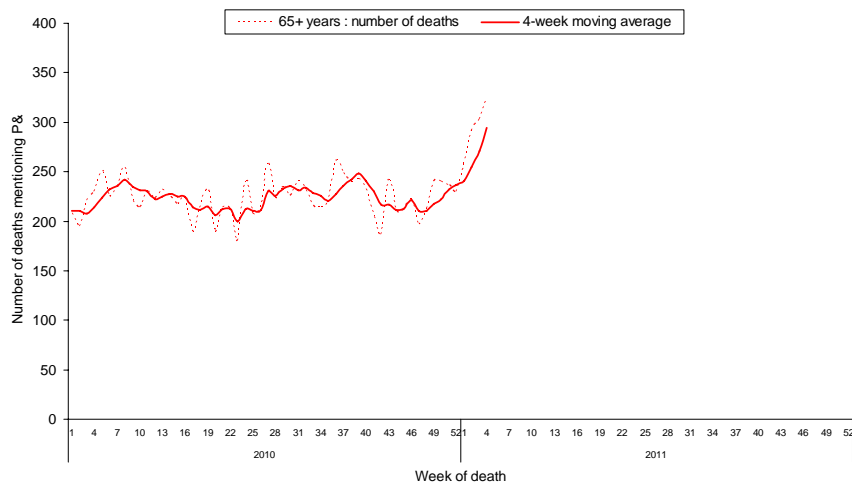
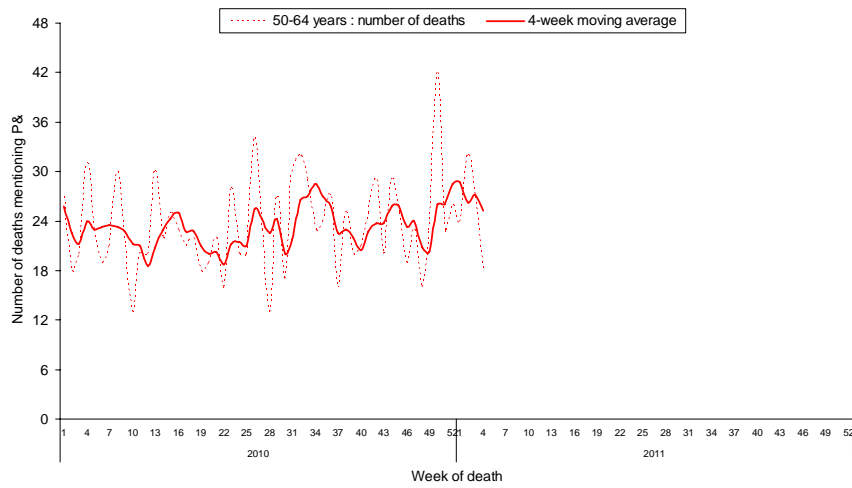
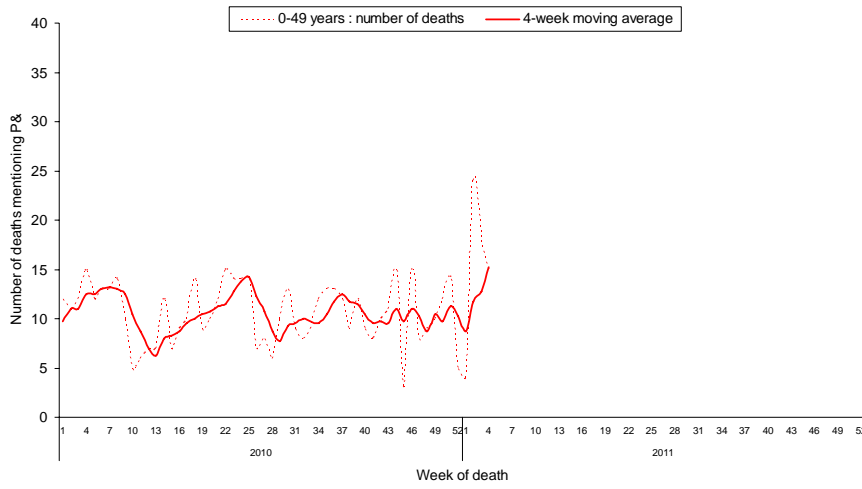
Pneumonia and influenza (P&I) mortality surveillance

During week 4, 357 deaths reported through the National Death Certificate System mentioned P&I as the cause of death. This number was above the average number during the past 3 weeks (327 deaths). The number of deaths related to P&I for age groups 0–49, 50–64, and greater than 65 years was the highest for adult greater than 65 years of age.

National pneumonia and influenza mortality Week ending 1/29/2011



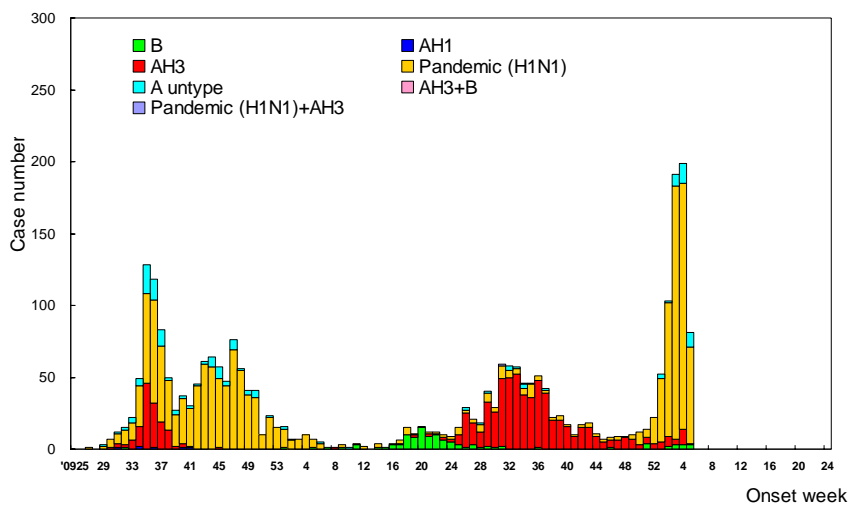
National pneumonia and influenza mortality by age group Week ending 1/29/2011



Reports of complicated influenza*

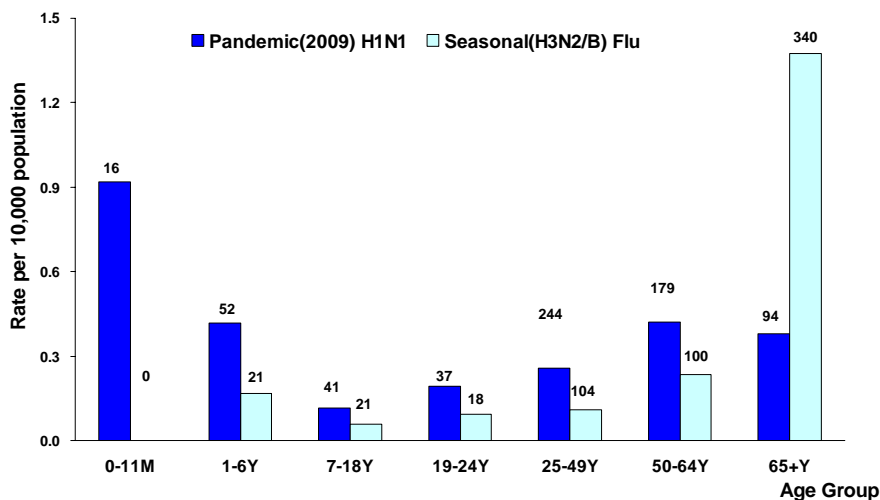
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Number of complicated influenza reports by week of onset 7/1/2009 to present



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

Rate of complicated influenza reports by age groups 7/1/2010 to present



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

* The number of patients with pandemic (2009) H1N1 includes one coinfected with pandemic (2009) H1N1 and seasonal H3N2 strains.



Outpatient and emergency room influenza-like illness surveillance

Nationwide during week 5, 2.34% of outpatient visits reported through the National Health Insurance Database were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). This rate has increased by 9% compared with the previous week (2.14%).

Nationwide during week 5, 26.03% of emergency room patient visits reported through the Real-time Outbreak and Disease Surveillance System (RODS) were due to ILI. This rate has increased by 30% compared with the previous week (19.98%).

Rate of outpatient and emergency room (ER) visits for influenza-like illness

6/14/2009 to present

