

台灣流感速訊

Taiwan Influenza Express

Taiwan Centers for Disease Control | 2008~2009 Influenza Season | Week 12, Mar. 15 ~ Mar. 21, 2009

Taiwan Influenza Surveillance:

1. The consultation rate for ILI (Influenza-Like Illness) reported by sentinel physicians for the week 12 in 2009 was lower than the mean of previous 3 weeks, with the percentage rates for the past 4 weeks being 3.22, 2.86, 2.64, and 2.61, respectively, as shown in Fig. 1. It was 10.1% lower than the mean of previous 3 weeks, which was lower 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 12 indicated that the epidemiological trend in Taiwan was lower than the mean of previous 3 weeks. Influenza AH1 was the dominant viruses in this flu season. Currently influenza activity in Taiwan is sporadic.

Worldwide Influenza Surveillance:

1. **Asia:** In Hong Kong, the weekly consultation rate for ILI reported by general practitioners for week 11 (2009/3/8-2009/3/14) was 39.2%, 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 14.85 for week 10 (2009/3/2-2009/3/8), which was higher than the previous week and the same period of last year. Influenza A was the dominant viruses in this flu season.
2. **U.S./Canada:** In USA, during week 10 (2009/3/8-2009/3/14), influenza activity decreased slightly. 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. Thirty states reported widespread influenza activity, 18 states reported regional influenza activity, 2 states reported local influenza activity, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia reported sporadic influenza activity. The dominant strain in 2008-2009 was influenza A. In Canada, during week 10 (2009/3/8-2009/3/14), the ILI consultation rate was lower than previous week (22 ILI consultations per 1,000 patient visits), which is within the expected range for this week. The sentinel response rate was 60%. Of the influenza detections to date, influenza A was the dominant virus.
3. **Europe:** EISS indicated that in week 11 (2009/3/9-2009/3/15) widespread influenza activities were reported in Belgium, Estonia, Hungary, Italy, Russian Federation and Ukraine, regional influenza activities were reported in Belarus, Finland, Greece, Israel, Latvia, Netherlands and Romania, local influenza activities were reported in Czech Republic, Lithuania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland and Turkey, sporadic influenza activities were reported in 12 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 11 (accessed on Mar. 30, 2009) there were widespread outbreaks in Russian Federation, Switzerland, USA and Japan, regional outbreaks in Latvia, Belarus, Finland, Estonia, Greece, Croatia, Tunisia and Romania, local outbreaks in Israel, UK and Slovenia, sporadic outbreaks in Denmark, France, Germany, Sri Lanka, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Sweden, Poland and China; the rest areas were no activity or no report.

Conclusion: Influenza activity of high intensity is in some countries of Europe, the USA/Canada and Japan.

Global Distribution of Influenza by WHO FLU-NET

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

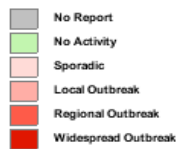


Fig.1 Percentage of Visits by ILI Cases as Reported by Sentinel Physicians

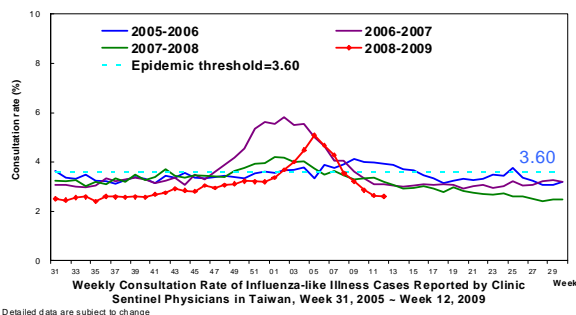
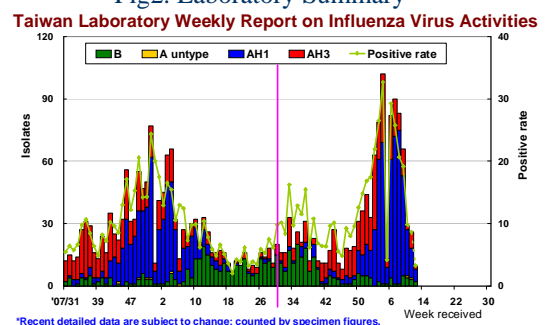


Fig2. Laboratory Summary



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.