



Summary : Week 18 (Apr. 27 – May 3, 2014)

Influenza activity remained decreased in Taiwan during week 18, 2014. Among the circulating viruses in Taiwan, the predominant virus subtype was influenza B virus.

- The percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza was 20.1% during week 16, 2014. 63.8% positive specimens were influenza B viruses.
- During week 18, 2014, there were 23 new cases and 7 reports of death from complicated influenza infection. Since July 1, 2013, there were 584 cases received the intensive care and 146 reports of death among 1696 cases of complicated influenza infection.
- The trends of weekly proportion of outpatient and emergency room visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) decreased steadily recently.

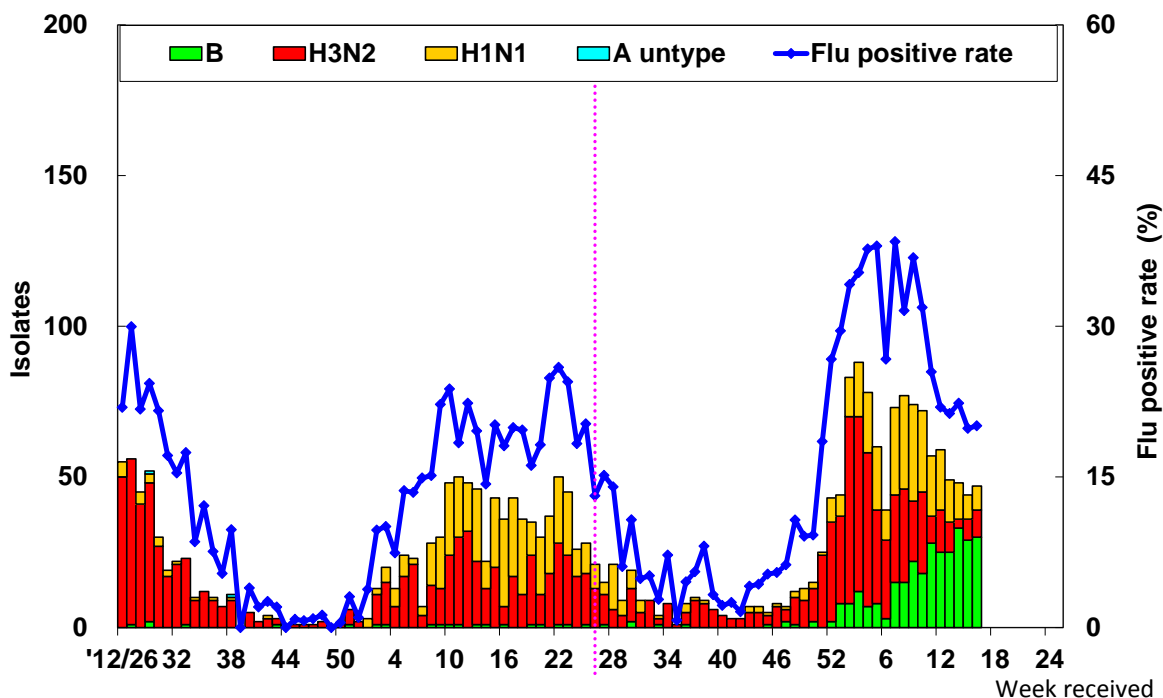
Viral Surveillance

	Data for week 16, 2014	Cumulative data since 7/1/2013
Number of specimens tested	234	7434
Number of positive specimens (%)	47(20.1)	1293(17.4)
Positive specimens by type/subtype (%)		
Influenza A (% of all positive specimens)	17(36.2)	994(76.9)
A (H1N1) (% of all Influenza A)	8(47.1)	362(36.4)
A (H3N2)	9(52.9)	632(63.6)
A (unable to subtype)	0(0)	0(0)
A (subtyping not performed)	0(0)	0(0)
Influenza B	30(63.8)	299(23.1)



Antigenic Characterization: Taiwan CDC has antigenically characterized 253 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). 22% influenza B viruses 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, the results of antiviral resistance to neuraminidase inhibitor (Oseltamivir) are summarized in the table below.

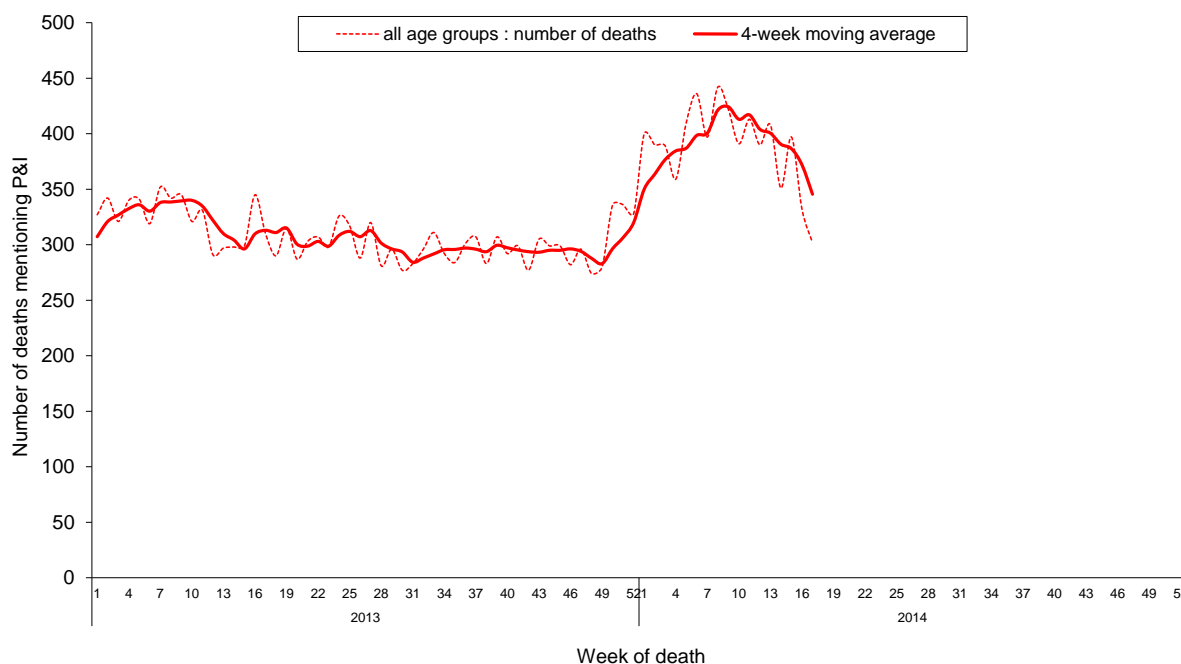
	Isolates tested (n)	Resistance Viruses, n (%)
		Oseltamivir
Influenza A (H1N1)	52	0
Influenza A (H3N2)	43	0
Influenza B	8	0



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⁺).

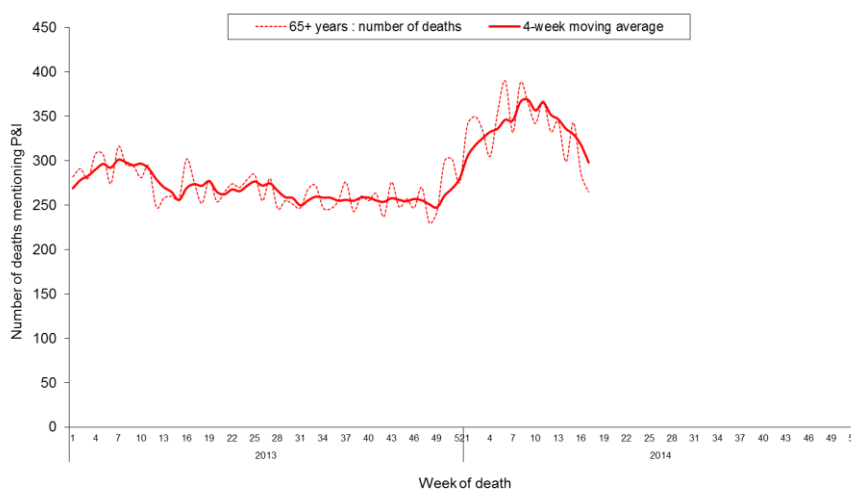
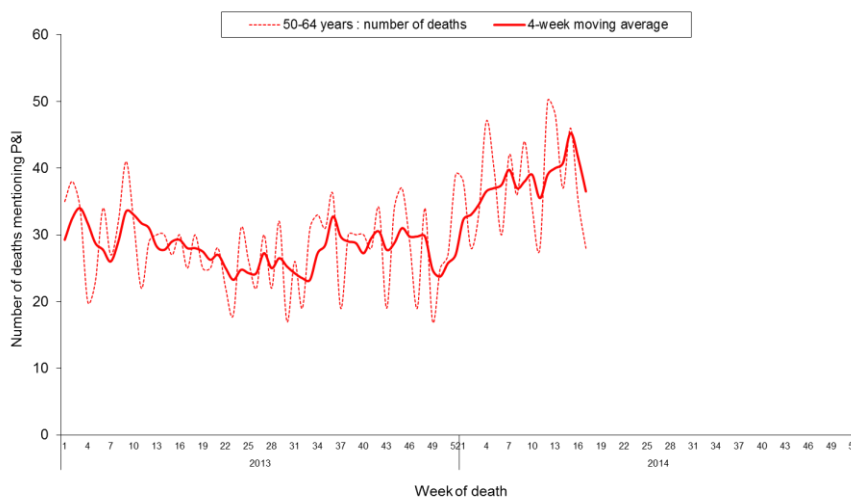
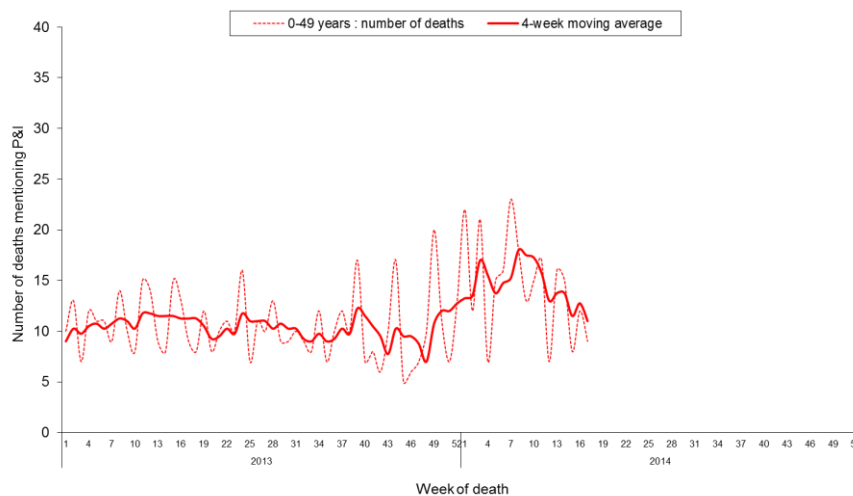
National pneumonia and influenza mortality Week ending at April 26, 2014



* 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.



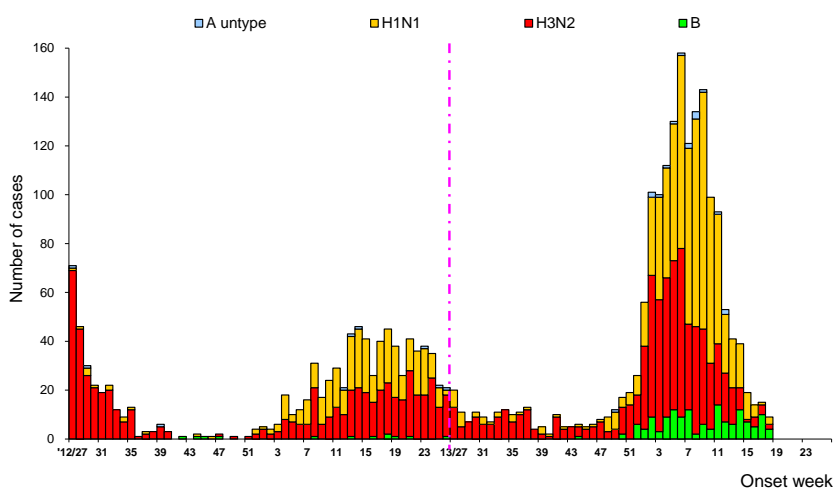
National pneumonia and influenza mortality by age group Week ending at April 26, 2014



Reports of complicated influenza

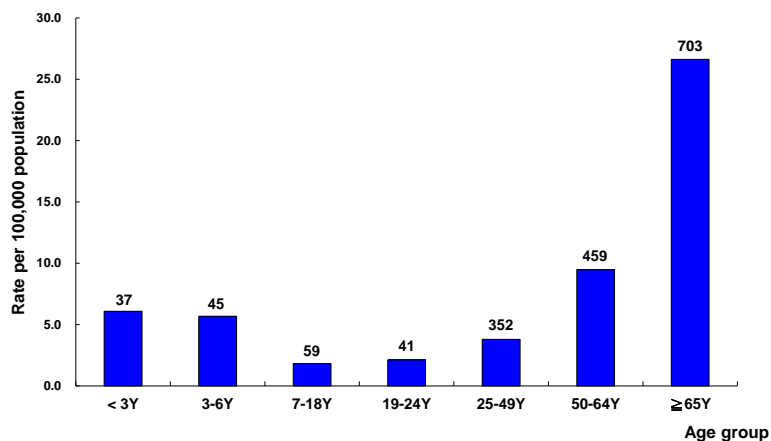
During week 18, 2014, there were 23 new cases of complicated influenza, including 4 cases with influenza A (H1N1) virus infection, 6 cases with influenza A (H3N2) virus infection and 13 cases with influenza B virus infection; 7 new reports of death from complicated influenza, including 6 cases with influenza A (H1N1) virus infection and 1 case with un-typed influenza A virus infection. Since July 1, 2013, 1696 cases of complicated influenza infection have been confirmed, including 795 cases from influenza A (H1N1) virus infection, 740 cases from influenza A (H3N2) virus infection, 16 cases due to un-typed influenza A virus infection, 144 cases from influenza B virus infection and 1 case with both A (H1N1) and A (H3N2) viruses infection. 584 cases of complicated influenza infection received the intensive care. Since July 1, 2013, there have been 146 reports of death from complicated influenza infection; 97 cases from influenza A (H1N1) virus infection, 43 cases from influenza A (H3N2) virus infection, 2 cases 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 18, 2014, 1.22% of outpatient visits reported through the National Health Insurance Database were due to influenza-like illness (ILI), a 5.4% decrease compared with the proportion of previous week (1.29%).

The proportion of emergency room (ER) visits for ILI was 10.81%, a 2.1% decrease compared with the proportion of previous week (11.04%).

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

