

台灣流感速訊

Taiwan Influenza Express

Taiwan Centers for Disease Control. | 2008~2009 Influenza Season | Week: 51 (12/14-12/20), 2008 |

Taiwan Influenza Surveillance :

1. The consultation rates for ILI (Influenza-Like Illness) reported by sentinel physicians for the week 51 in 2008 was higher than the mean of previous 3 weeks, with the percentage rates for the past 4 weeks being 3.07、3.12、3.23、3.20, respectively, as shown in Fig. 1. It was higher than the mean of previous 3 weeks by 2 %, which was lower than the same period in 2007-2008.
2. Comparing to the mean of previous 3 weeks, the consultation rate decreased in Kao-Pin and Eastern regions and increased in rest of 4 regions of Taiwan.
3. The dominant respiratory virus identified by National Influenza Center and CDC Collaborating Labs in these 6 weeks was type AH3, as shown in Fig. 2.

Conclusion : The influenza surveillance for week 50 indicated that the epidemiological trends in Taiwan were higher than the mean of previous 3 weeks. Influenza B and AH3 were both the dominant viruses (both are 43.6%) in this flu season (In last 6 weeks: AH3).

Worldwide Influenza Surveillance :

1. **Asia : In Hong Kong**, the weekly consultation rate for ILI reported by general practitioners for the week 50 (12/7-12/13) was 31.2%, which comparing to the previous week was higher, lower than the same period of last year. Since 2008, influenza A was the dominant viruses. **In Japan**, the number of ILI cases reported by sentinel physicians was 0.83 for the week 48 (11/24-11/30), which comparing with the previous week was higher, but lower than same period of last year. Influenza A was the dominant viruses in this flu season.
2. **U.S. /Canada : In USA**, during week 50(12/7-12/13), a low level of influenza activity. 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. Three states reported local influenza activity; the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and 36states reported sporadic influenza activity. The dominant strain in 2008-2009 was influenza A. **In Canada**, during week 50, low levels of influenza activity. The ILI consultation rate was higher than previous week (16 ILI consultations per 1,000 patient visits), which is below the expected range for this week. The sentinel response rate was 61%. Of the influenza detections to date, 59% were influenza A and 41% were influenza B. One new outbreak was reported in a school in week 50.
3. **Europe :** EISS indicated that medium levels of influenza activity in some countries in Europe. In week 50 (12/7-12/13) widespread influenza activity was reported in England and Portugal, regional influenza activities was reported in Northern Ireland, local influenza activities was reported in France and Spain, sporadic influenza activities was reported in 11 countries (Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland) with no activity in the other 13countries.
4. **WHO Flu-net :** Global flu surveillance showed that in week 48 (accessed on Dec 26, 2008) there were local outbreak in Japan and sporadic in Bulgaria, Belgium, Belarus, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Cameroon, China, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Tunisia, USA, Norway and Portugal; the rest areas were no activity or no report.

Conclusion : There were widespread, regional, local and sporadic activities in some countries.

Global Distribution of Influenza by WHO FLU-NET

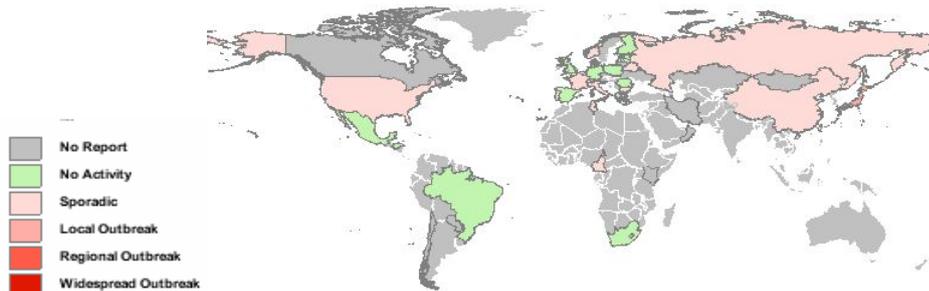
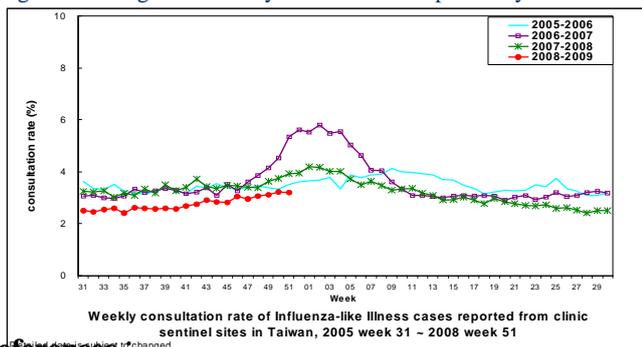


Fig.1 Percentage of Visits by ILI Cases as Reported by Sentinel Physicians



References

Global epidemiological situation of influenza: *WHO Flu-net, USA-CDC*, * Detailed data is subject to change: Count by specimen number.
 Taiwan epidemiological situation of ILI: *Taiwan CDC*. For more info, surf <http://www.cdc.gov.tw>, <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.

Fig2. Laboratory Summary

