

台灣流感速訊

Taiwan Influenza Express

Taiwan Centers for Disease Control | 2008~2009 Influenza Season | Week 18, Apr. 26 ~ May 2, 2009

Taiwan Influenza Surveillance:

1. The consultation rate for ILI (Influenza-Like Illness) reported by sentinel physicians for the week 18 in 2009 was 3.0% higher than the mean of previous 3 weeks, which was lower compared to the same period in 2007-2008. The percentage rates for the past 4 weeks being 2.36, 2.30, 2.43, and 2.43, respectively, as shown in Fig. 1.
2. Comparing to the mean of previous 3 weeks, the consultation rate increased in 3 regions (Taipei, Central, Southern) and decreased in the rest 3 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 18 indicated that the epidemiological trend in Taiwan was higher than the mean of previous 3 weeks. Influenza AH1 was the dominant viruses in this flu season.

Worldwide Influenza Surveillance:

1. **Asia:** In Hong Kong, the weekly consultation rate for ILI reported by general practitioners for week 17 (2009/4/19-2009/4/25) was 36.7%, which was slightly higher than the previous week but lower than 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 4.10 for week 16 (2009/4/13-2009/4/19), which was higher than the previous week and the same period of last year. Influenza A was the dominant viruses in this flu season, but influenza B had been progressively increased.
2. **U.S./Canada:** In USA, during week 15 (2009/4/12-2009/4/18), influenza activity continued to decrease. 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. Nine states reported regional influenza activity, 17 states reported local influenza activity, the District of Columbia and 22 states reported sporadic influenza activity. The dominant strain in 2008-2009 was influenza A, but influenza B had been progressively increased (data don't update). In Canada, during week 16 (2009/4/19-2009/4/25), influenza activity continued to decline. The ILI consultation rate was lower than previous week (7 ILI consultations per 1,000 patient visits), which was below the expected range for this week. The sentinel response rate was 60.3%. Of the influenza detections to date, influenza A was the dominant virus.
3. **Europe:** EISS indicated that in week 17 (2009/4/20-2009/4/26) local influenza activities were reported in Russian Federation, sporadic influenza activities were reported in 13 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 17 (accessed on May 11, 2009) there were regional outbreaks in Mexico, sporadic outbreaks in Mongolia, Estonia, China, Turkey, Romania, Russian Federation, Australia and Slovenia; the rest areas were no activity or no report.

Conclusion: An outbreak of human infections by a novel influenza A (H1N1) virus of swine origin first took place in Mexico and the United States late April, and now it is spreading through sustained human-to-human transmission in many countries world wide, while activities of seasonal influenza A and B viruses are decreasing.

Global Distribution of Influenza by WHO FLU-NET

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

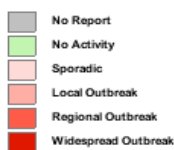


Fig.1 Percentage of Visits by ILI Cases as Reported by Sentinel Physicians

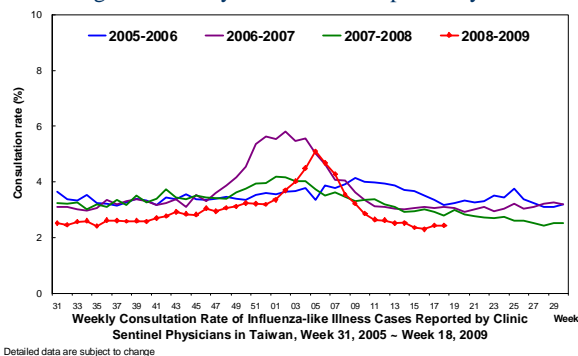
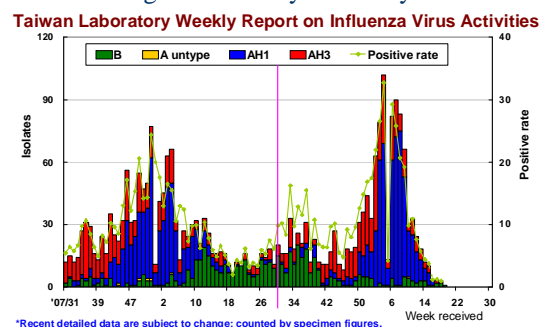


Fig2. Laboratory Summary



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.