



Summary : Week 42 (Oct 12 – Oct 18, 2014)

Influenza activity was still low in Taiwan.

- The percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza was 1.4% during week 40, 2014. All positive specimens were influenza B viruses.
- During week 42, 2014, there was 1 new report of death from severe complicated influenza. Since July 1, 2014, there were 20 reports of death among 104 cases of severe complicated influenza infection.
- The weekly proportion of outpatient and emergency room visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) showed a low trend recently.

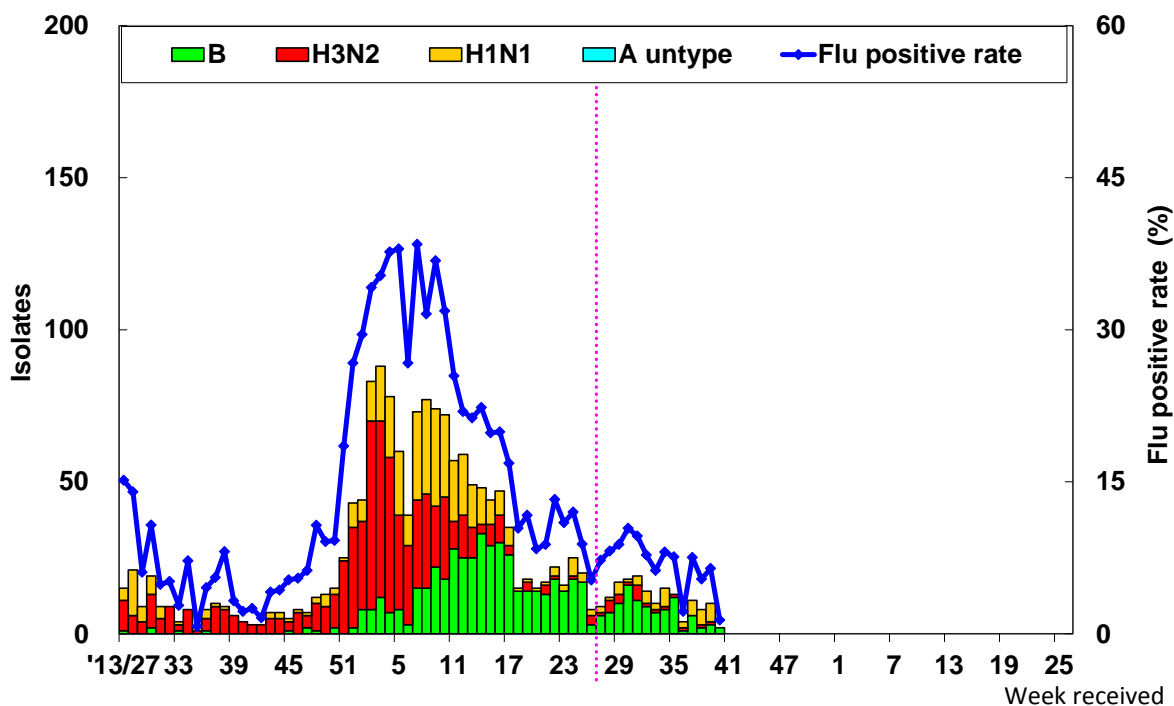
Viral Surveillance

	Data for week 40, 2014	Cumulative data since 7/1/2014
Number of specimens tested	148	2310
Number of positive specimens (%)	2(1.4)	162(7)
Positive specimens by type/subtype (%)		
Influenza A (% of all positive specimens)	0(0)	62(38.3)
A (H1N1) (% of all Influenza A)	0(0)	41(66.1)
A (H3N2)	0(0)	21(33.9)
A (unable to subtype)	(0)	0(0)
A (subtyping not performed)	0(0)	0(0)
Influenza B	2(100)	100(61.7)



Antigenic Characterization: Taiwan CDC has antigenically characterized 7 human influenza viruses. Since October 1, 2014. One influenza A (H1N1) virus tested was related to the A (H1N1) component of the 2014-15 influenza vaccine (A/California/7/2009pdm09). 67% of the influenza A (H3N2) viruses tested were related to the A (H3N2) component of the 2014-15 influenza vaccine (A/Texas/50/2012). 33% of influenza B viruses tested were related to the B component of the 2014-15 trivalent influenza vaccine (B/Massachusetts/2/2012).

Influenza positive tests reported to Taiwan CDC by contracted laboratories, 2013–2015



Antiviral Resistance: Since October 1, 2013, the results of antiviral resistance to neuraminidase inhibitor (Oseltamivir) are summarized in the table below.

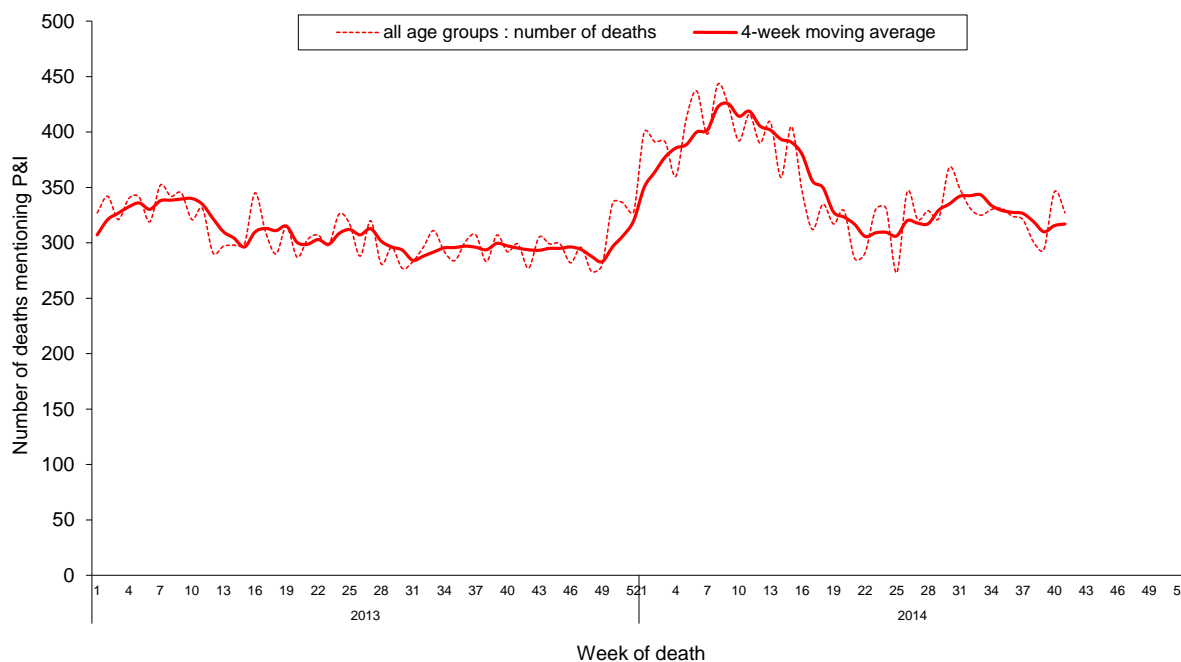
	Isolates tested (n)	Resistance Viruses, n (%)
		Oseltamivir
Influenza A (H1N1)	62	0
Influenza A (H3N2)	45	0
Influenza B	15	0



Pneumonia and influenza (P&I) mortality surveillance

The trend of P&I was low recently. 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+).

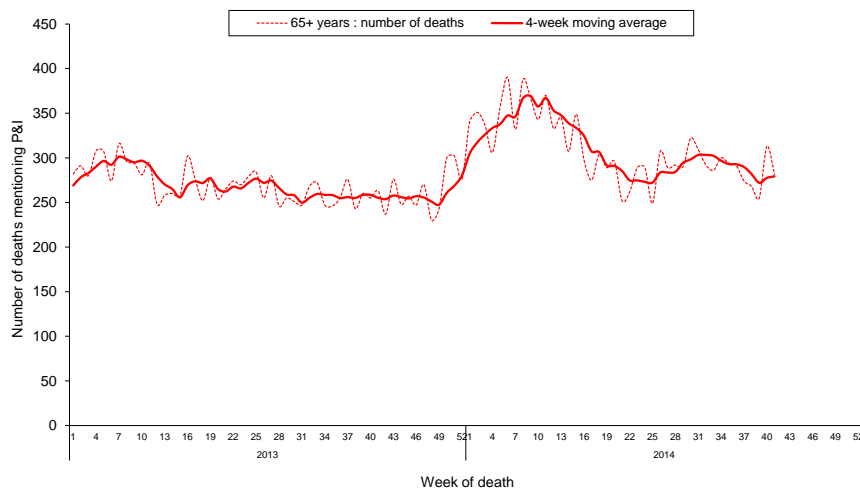
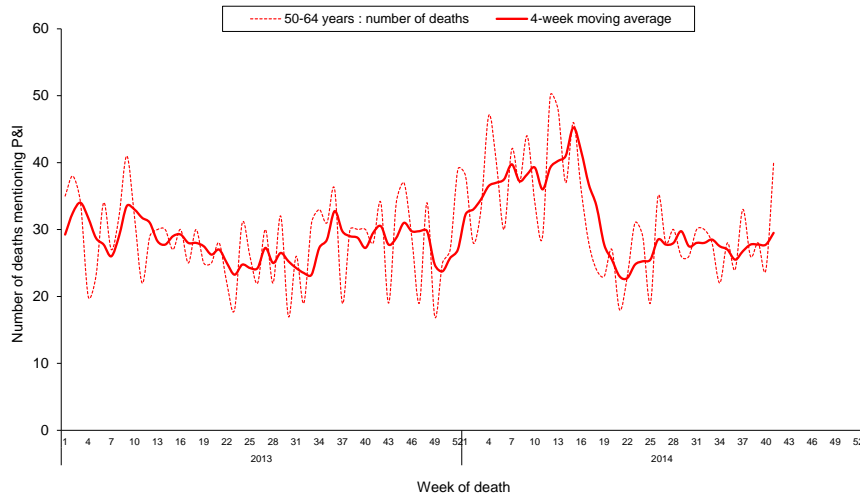
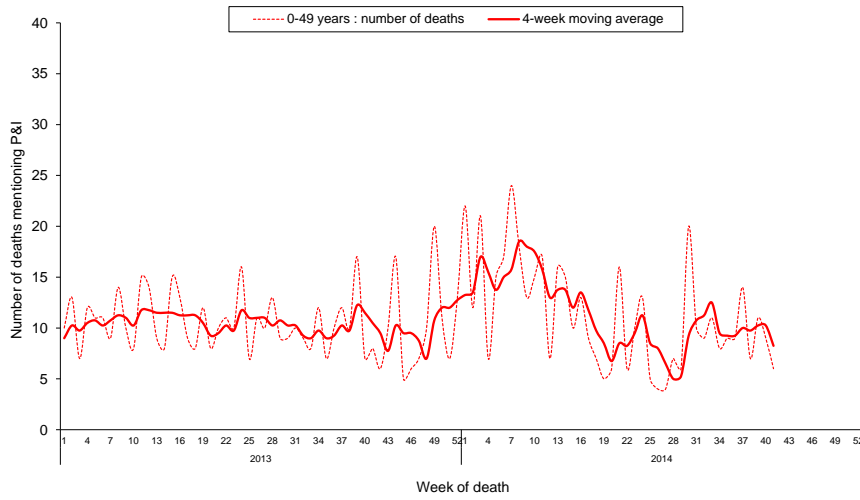
National pneumonia and influenza mortality Week ending at Oct 11, 2014



* 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.



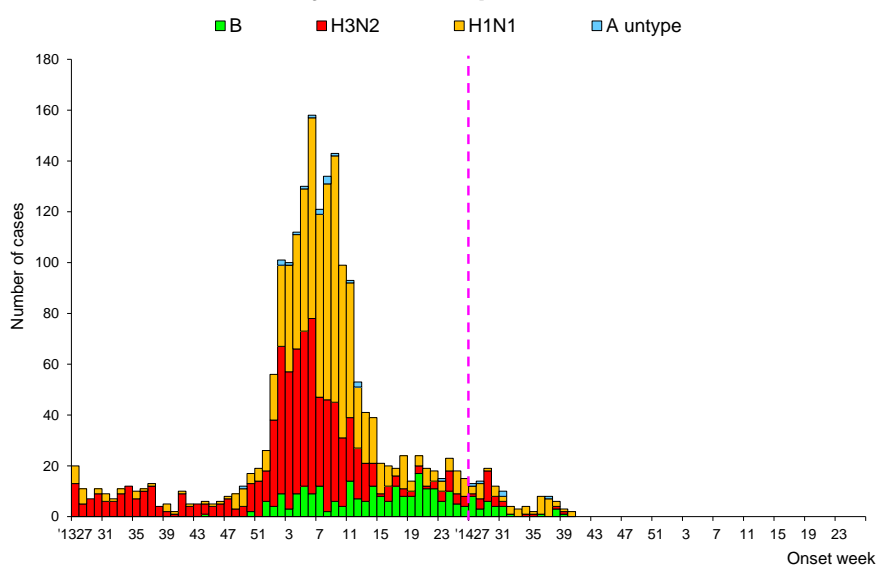
National pneumonia and influenza mortality by age group Week ending at Oct 11, 2014



Reports of severe complicated influenza

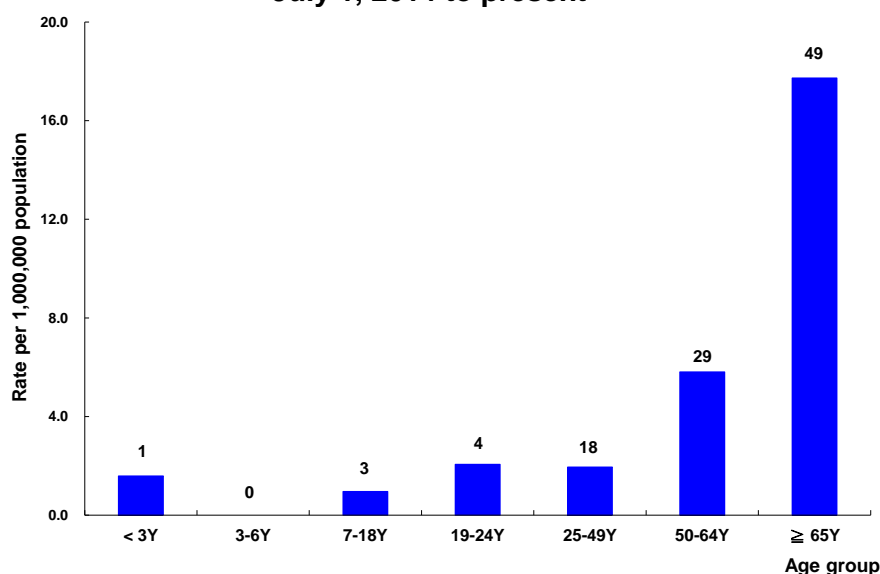
During week 42, 2014, there was 1 new report of death from severe complicated influenza with influenza A (H1N1) virus infection. Since July 1, 2014, 104 cases of severe complicated influenza infection have been confirmed, including 43 cases from influenza A (H1N1) virus infection, 27 cases from influenza A (H3N2) virus infection, 5 cases due to un-typed influenza A virus infection, 29 cases from influenza B virus infection. There have been 20 reports of death from severe complicated influenza infection; 11 cases from influenza A (H1N1) virus infection, 3 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 severe complicated influenza reports by week of onset July 1, 2013 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 severe complicated influenza reports by age groups July 1, 2014 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 42, 2014, the proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) reported through the National Health Insurance Database was 0.95%, which was lower than the proportion of previous week (0.99%). The proportion of emergency room (ER) visits for ILI was 8.39%, which was lower than the proportion of previous week (8.70%).

Proportions of outpatient and emergency room (ER) visits for influenza-like illness (July 1, 2013 to present)

