



Summary : Week 41 (Oct. 9– Oct. 15, 2011)

Influenza activity was low in Taiwan during week 41. Seasonal influenza B virus was predominant in community in week 41.

- Of the 339 specimens tested during week 39, 37 (11%) were positive for influenza viruses, 29 (9%) were positive for influenza B viruses, 7 (2%) were positive for influenza AH3 viruses, 1 (<1%) was positive for H1N1.
- There were 12 new complicated influenza infections and 1 report of death from complicated influenza infections during week 41. Since July 1, 2011, 56 complicated influenza infections have been confirmed, including 15 cases requiring intensive care. Since July 1, 2011, 1 death due to influenza AH3 virus infection has been reported.
- The number of deaths related to pneumonia and influenza during week 40 was 216, which was below the number of the previous week (241 deaths).
- The rate of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness is 1.05%, a 5% increase compared with the previous week (1%).
- The rate of emergency room visits for ILI is 10.26%, a 8.6% increase compared with the previous week (9.45%).

Virologic surveillance

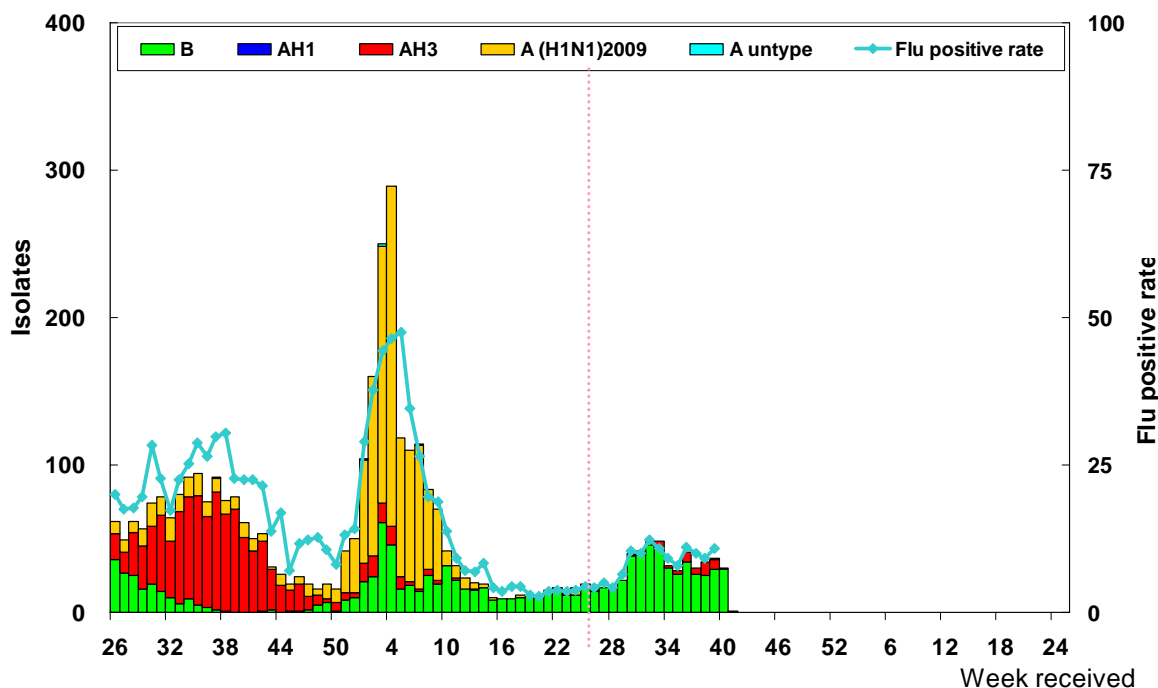
The results of tests performed during week 39 are summarized in the table below.

	Data for week 39	Cumulative data since 7/1/2011
Number of specimens tested	339	5326
Number of positive specimens (%)	37(11)	483(9)
Positive specimens by type/subtype (%)		
Influenza A (% of all positive specimens)	8(22)	48(10)
A (pandemic [H1N1] 2009) (% of all Influenza A)	1(12)	5(10)
A (H3)	7(88)	43(90)
A (H1)	0(0)	0(0)
A (unable to subtype)	0(0)	0(0)
A (subtyping not performed)	0(0)	0(0)
Influenza B	29(78)	435(90)



Antigenic characterization: Taiwan CDC has antigenically characterized 108 human influenza viruses [8 influenza A (H3), 100 influenza B] since July 1, 2011. All of the influenza A (H3N2) viruses tested were related to the A (H3N2) vaccine component (A/Perth/16/2009). 33% (n=33) of the influenza B viruses tested belonged to the B/Victoria lineage and were related to the B component of the 2011-12 influenza vaccine (B/Brisbane/60/2008).

Influenza positive tests reported to Taiwan CDC by contracted laboratories, 2010–2012



Antiviral resistance: Since July 1, 2011, 18 influenza A (H3N2) and 37 influenza B viruses have been tested for resistance to the neuraminidase inhibitors (oseltamivir). The results of antiviral resistance testing performed on these viruses are summarized in the table below.

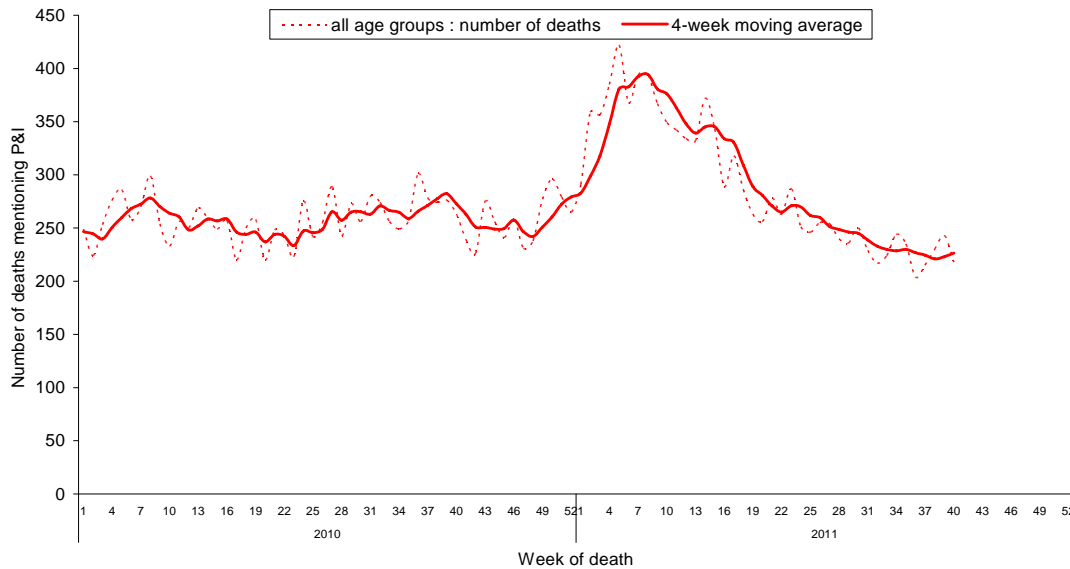
	Isolates tested (n)	Resistance Viruses, n (%)
		Oseltamivir
A (pandemic [H1N1] 2009)	0	0(0)
A (H3)	18	0 (0)
B	37	0 (0)



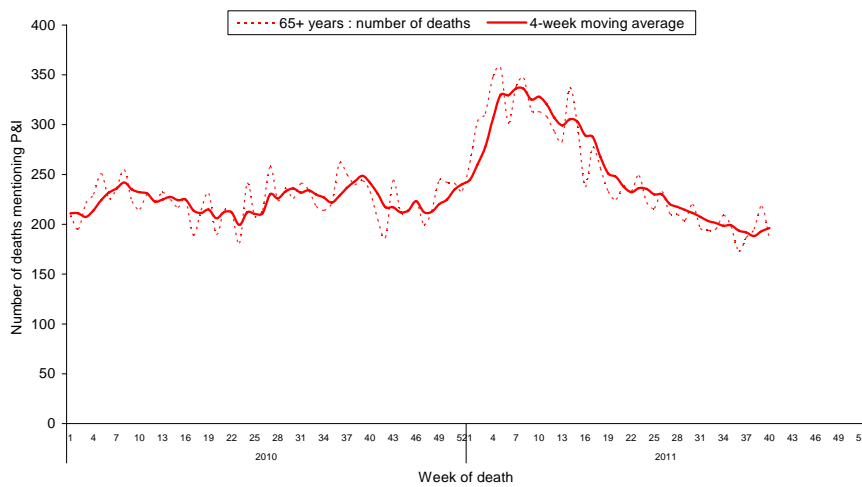
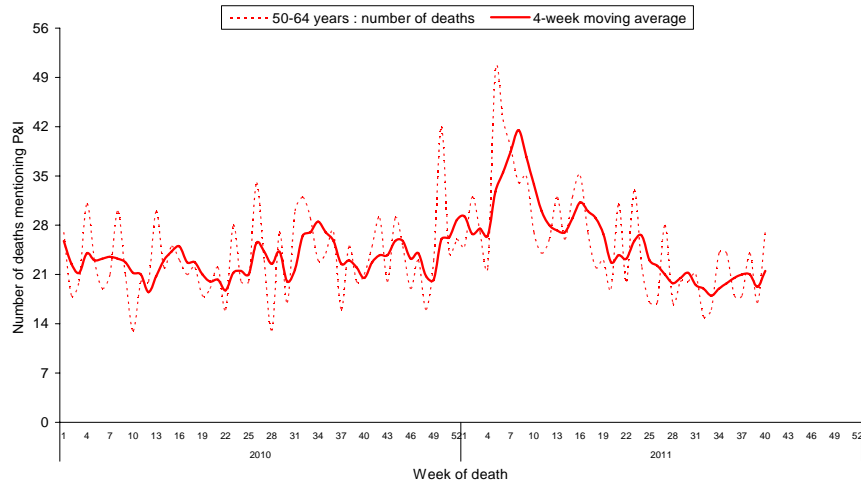
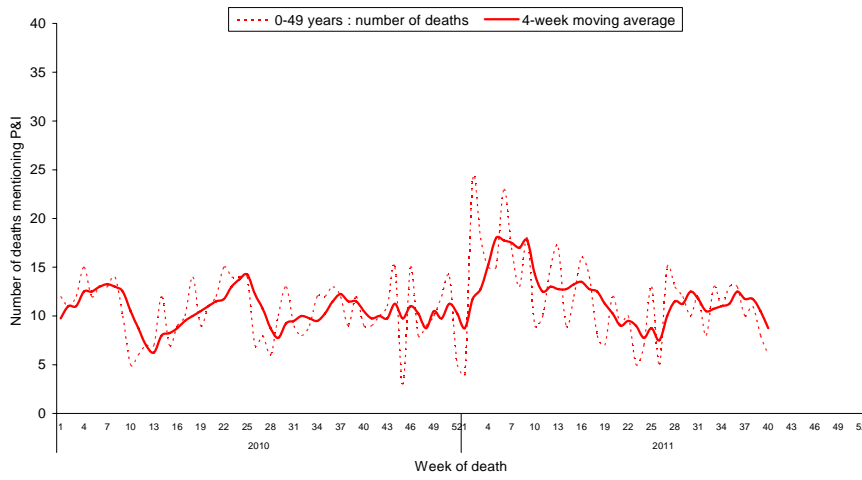
Pneumonia and influenza (P&I) mortality surveillance

During week 40, 216 deaths reported through the National Death Certificate System mentioned P&I as the cause of death. This number was below the number of previous week (241 deaths). The number of deaths related to P&I for age groups 0–49, 50–64, and greater than 65 years was the highest for adult greater than 65 years of age.

National pneumonia and influenza mortality Week ending 8/10/2011



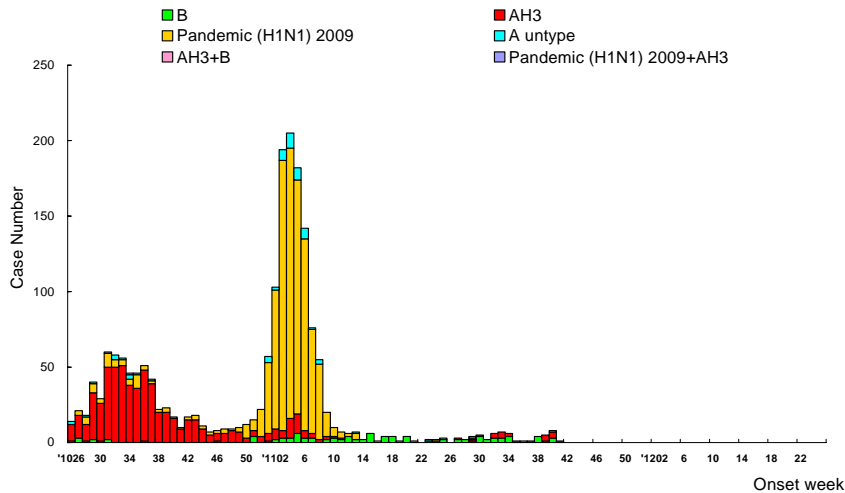
National pneumonia and influenza mortality by age group Week ending 8/10/2011



Reports of complicated influenza*

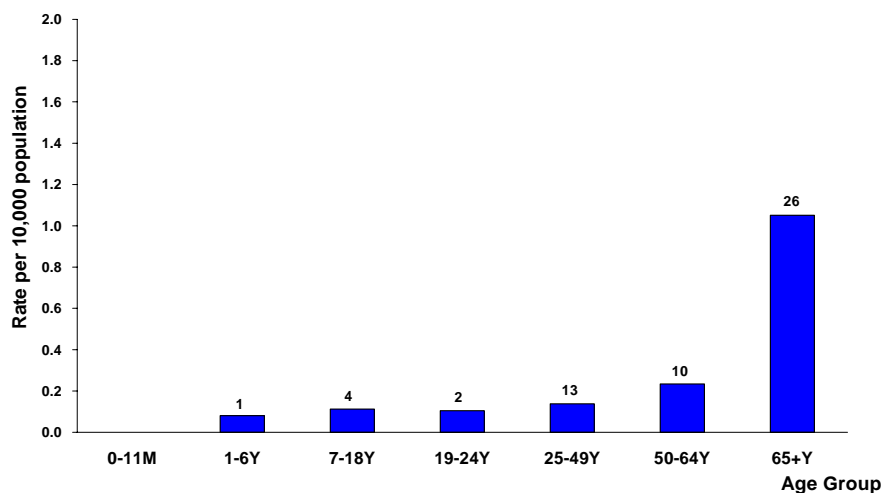
There were 12 new complicated influenza infections (including 8 seasonal influenza AH3 cases, 3 seasonal influenza B cases and 1 H1N1 case) and 1 report of death from complicated influenza infections during week 41. Since July 1, 2011, 56 complicated influenza infections have been confirmed, including 15 cases requiring intensive care. Since July 1, 2011, 1 death due to influenza AH3 virus infection has been reported.

Number of complicated influenza reports by week of onset 27/6/2010 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 1/7/2011 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 41, 1.05% of outpatient visits reported through the National Health Insurance Database were due to influenza-like illness (ILI), a 5% increase compared with the previous week (1%).

The rate of emergency room visits for ILI is 10.26%, a 8.6% increase compared with the previous week (9.45%).

Rate of outpatient and emergency room (ER) visits for influenza-like illness

27/6/2009 to present

