Influenza surveillance summary

This influenza surveillance summary includes countries where routine surveillance is conducted and information is available.

Countries in the temperate zone of the Northern Hemisphere

In countries within the temperate zone of the Northern Hemisphere, Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) activity is increasing following seasonal patterns.

Japan

In Japan the ILI activity has been increasing, following seasonal patterns. (Figure 1)

![Figure 1: Influenza cases reported per sentinel weekly](Source: Japan National Institute of Infectious Diseases)

Mongolia

ILI activity in Mongolia, in week 2, 2015, has been following seasonal patterns however has surpassed the upper tolerance limit. (Figure 2)

![Figure 2: Proportion of outpatients that were ILI (per 10,000 people)](Source: National Influenza Center of Mongolia)
Though, the proportion of patients with pneumonia among hospitalized patients has increased, following seasonal patterns and has similarly exceeded the upper tolerance limit, it starts to decrease in this week. (Figure 3)

**North China**
During week 1, 2015, ILI% at national sentinel hospitals in north China was 4.2%, higher than the previous week and the same week of 2010 and 2011 (3.1%-4.1%), lower than the last week of 2012 and 2013 (3.6%-4.1%) (Figure 4)
Republic of Korea

In week 2, 2015, the overall proportion of patients who visited sentinel physicians for ILI was 10.0 cases per 1,000, below the national baseline of 12.2‰. This was lower than the same week for 2011 to 2013. (Figure 5)

Figure 5: The weekly proportion of ILI visits per 1,000 patients
(Source: Korean Center for Disease Control and Prevention)

Countries/areas in the tropical zone

In countries/areas in the tropical zone, the overall ILI activity was variable.

Hong Kong (China)

The ILI consultation rates at sentinel general outpatient clinics have increased in the past two weeks. The average consultation rate for ILI among sentinel general outpatient clinics was 6.2 ILI cases per 1,000 consultations in week 2, 2015. (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Consultation rates at sentinel general outpatient clinics
(Source: Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection)
The average consultation rate for ILI among sentinel private doctors has increased in the past two weeks. The average consultation rate was 51.8 ILI cases per 1,000 consultations in week 2, 2015. (Figure 7)

Figure 7: ILI consultation rates at sentinel private doctors
(Source: Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection)

In week 2, 2015, hospital admission rates with principal diagnosis of influenza for persons aged 0-4 years, 5-64 years and 65 years or above were 1.40, 0.14 and 1.68 cases per 10,000 people in the age group, respectively (Figure 8).

Figure 8: Influenza associated hospital admission rates and deaths
(Source: Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection)
Singapore

The average daily number of patients seeking treatment in the polyclinics for ARI increased from 2,732 (over 4 working days) in week 53, 2014 to 2,822 (over 5.5 working days) in week 1, 2015. (Figure 9)

South China

During week 1, 2015 the percentage of outpatient or emergency visits for ILI at national sentinel hospitals in south China was 2.9%, higher than the last week and the same week of 2010 and 2012 (2.6-2.7%) and lower than the same week of 2011 and 2013 (3.1%-4.0%) (Figure 10).
Countries in the temperate zone of the southern hemisphere

In Australia and New Zealand, the flu season has ended. Reporting from these Member States in the Influenza Situation Update will commence during the beginning of the next flu season.

Pacific Island Countries and Areas (PICs)

In the PICs, ILL activity was variable with an increasing trend observed in a number of islands especially in Fiji, New Caledonia, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. (Figure 11)

![Pacific Syndromic Surveillance System](image)

Figure 11: Pacific Islands Countries and Areas reported cases of diarrhea, influenza-like illness and prolonged fever by year, month and week number.

*Note: Numbers of reported cases are not comparable between countries. The purpose of the charts is to show trends over time within each country/area.*
Influenza Situation Update
20 January 2015

Virological Surveillance
Summary

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Reporting period</th>
<th>Samples received</th>
<th>A</th>
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Table 1: Data from WHO FluNet, MOH and Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System, WHO

Countries in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere

Mongolia
The number of specimens has been increasing and Influenza virus circulates at middle levels in week 2, 2015. (Figure 12)

Figure 12: Viruses detected (Source: National Influenza Center of Mongolia)
North China
During week 1, 2015 the percentage of specimens that were tested positive for influenza in north China was 32.2%, which was lower than the previous week (36.8%) (Figure 13). Influenza A (H3N2) was the predominant strain reported.

Republic of Korea
70 influenza viruses were isolated until week 2 in 2014-2015 season. 45 viruses were identified as A/H3N2, 19 were identified as A/H1N1pdm09 and 6 were identified as influenza B. (Figure 14).
Countries/areas in the tropical zone

Hong Kong (China)
In week 2, 2015, 607 (18.11%) samples tested positive for seasonal influenza viruses, including 2 influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, 567 influenza A(H3), 30 influenza B and 8 influenza C. (Figure 15)

![Graph showing influenza detections by week and percentage positive](image1)

Figure 15: Data from Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection

Singapore
The overall prevalence of influenza among ILI samples (n=62) in the community was 29% in the past 4 weeks. Of the specimens that tested positive for influenza in December 2014, 92.3% were influenza A (H3N2) while 7.7% were positive for influenza A (H1N1)pdm09. (Figure 16)

![Graph showing monthly influenza surveillance](image2)

Figure 16: Data from Singapore Ministry of Health
South China

During week 1, 2015 the percentage of specimens that tested positive for influenza in south China was 13.2%, which was higher than the previous week (12.5%). Influenza A (H3N2) and Influenza B (Yamagata) were the predominant strains reported. (Figure 17)

Global influenza situation updates:

Epidemiological update:
http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance/

Virological update:
http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/updates/summaryreport