Virological Surveillance Summary

In the Western Pacific Region, the following influenza viruses predominated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Predominant viruses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-9</td>
<td>A (H3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-16</td>
<td>B (Yamagata lineage), B (lineage not determined)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17-19</td>
<td>B (Yamagata lineage), A (H3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-22</td>
<td>A (H3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-25</td>
<td>B (lineage not determined)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Countries providing specimens for FluNet reporting from the Western Pacific Region include Australia, China, Mongolia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, and Viet Nam.

From week 1 to week 25 of 2015, 92.62% of influenza specimens provided to FluNet were from China (n=280,462), 2.4% from Australia (n=7,537) and 1.9% from Republic of Korea (n=5,876).

Influenza surveillance summary

Influenza surveillance in the WHO Western Pacific Region is based on outpatient and inpatient sentinel surveillance systems. Case definitions, populations under surveillance and data formats differ among these countries. This influenza surveillance summary includes countries where routine surveillance is conducted and information is available from syndromic surveillance systems for Influenza-like-illness (ILI) and Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI).

The WHO surveillance case definition for ILI is an acute respiratory infection with a measured fever of $\geq 38$ C° and cough, with symptom onset within the last 10 days. For SARI, it is an acute respiratory infection with a history of fever or measured fever of $\geq 38$ C° and cough, with symptom onset within the last 10 days and requires hospitalization.
In most countries within the temperate zone of the Northern Hemisphere, ILI and influenza activity decreased and remained at low levels.

**Outpatient ILI Surveillance**

**China (North)**
During week 25, ILI percentage at national sentinel hospitals in north China was 2.6%, the same as 2011 (2.6%), higher than the last week (2.5%), and the same week of 2013 and 2014 (2.5% and 2.5%), lower than the same week of 2012 (2.8%) (Figure 2).

**Mongolia**
In week 26, 2015, ILI activity in Mongolia continued to decline following the known seasonal pattern, remaining within the upper and lower 90% tolerance limits for the country (Figure 3).

**Republic of Korea**
In week 26, 2015, the proportion of patients visiting sentinel physicians for ILI was 3.5% which is lower than last week (4.4%) and below the baseline of 12.2% (Figure 4).
Hospital influenza surveillance

Japan
In Japan, the number of influenza cases reported weekly per hospital sentinel site follows the known seasonal trend, with case numbers continuing to decrease (Figure 5).

![Figure 5: Number of influenza cases reported weekly per sentinel hospital site, Japan 2005-2015 (Source: Japan National Institute of Infectious Diseases)](image)

Countries/areas in the tropical zone

In week 26 of 2015, increased influenza activity was reported in countries/areas in the tropical zone.

Outpatient Surveillance

Hong Kong (China)- ILI Surveillance
In week 26, the average consultation rate for influenza-like illness (ILI) among sentinel general outpatient clinics (GOPCs) decreased to 9.8 ILI cases per 1,000 consultations from 11.2 recorded in the previous week (Figure 6). The average consultation rate for ILI among sentinel private doctors decreased to 52.4 ILI cases per 1,000 consultations from 53.0 recorded in the previous week (Figure 7).

China (South)- ILI Surveillance
During week 25, the percentage of outpatient or emergency visits for ILI at national sentinel hospitals in south China was 4.1%, the same as the last week (4.1%) and higher than the same week of 2011–2014 (2.9%, 3.2%, 3.2%, 3.1% and 3.5%) (Figure 8).

Singapore – ARI Surveillance
The average daily number of patients seeking treatment in the polyclinics for ARI increased from 2,631 (over 5.5 working days) in E-week 24 to 2,651 (over 5.5 working days) in E-week 25 (Figure 9).
Countries in the temperate zone of the southern hemisphere

Influenza activity is increased but remained at low levels in most of the reporting countries in the southern hemisphere.

**Australia – Laboratory-confirmed influenza**

As of 19 June 2015, there were 11,585 cases of laboratory confirmed influenza, with 1,795 notifications reported in the most recent fortnight. While influenza notifications are higher than at this point last year, they are still at low levels (Figure 10).
New Zealand – Influenza like Illness
ILI through sentinel surveillance was reported from 18 out of 20 District Health Boards with a national consultation rate of 25.5 per 100 000 (78 ILI consultations). This is below the seasonal threshold (Figure 11).
**Pacific Island Countries and Areas (PICs)- ILI Surveillance**

In the PICs, ILI activity was variable with an increasing trend observed in a number of islands, particularly in American Samoa and Kiribati (Figure 12).

![Pacific Syndromic Surveillance System](image)

*Figure 12: Cases of influenza-like illness, diarrhea and prolonged fever by week, Pacific Island Countries and Areas, 2014-2015 (Source the Pacific Syndromic Surveillance Network)*

**Global influenza situation updates**
