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>20-26</td>
<td>A (H3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Countries providing specimens for FluNet reporting from the Western Pacific Region include Australia, China, Fiji, Lao PDR, Mongolia, New Zealand, Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Viet Nam. From week 1 to week 26 of 2015, 92.62% of influenza specimens provided to FluNet were from China (n=308, 974), 2.5% from Australia (n=8, 213) and 1.8% from Republic of Korea (n=6,052).

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 $\geq 38 \, ^{\circ}C$ 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 $\geq 38 \, ^{\circ}C$ and cough, with symptom onset within the last 10 days and requires hospitalization.
Countries in the temperate zone of the Northern Hemisphere

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 27, ILI% at national sentinel hospitals in north China was 2.5%, lower than the last week and the same week of 2011-2014 (2.6%,2.7%,2.7%,2.7% and 2.6%) (Figure 2).

**Mongolia**
In week 27, 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 28, 2015, the proportion of patients visiting sentinel physicians for ILI was 3.2%, which was lower than last week (3.4%) and below the baseline of 12.2% (Figure 4).

![Figure 2: Percentage of visits for ILI at sentinel hospitals, 2010-2015 (Source: China National Influenza Center)](image)

![Figure 3: Proportion of outpatients that were ILI (per 10,000 people), 2013-2015 (Source: Mongolia National Influenza Center)](image)

![Figure 4: Weekly proportion of ILI visits per 1,000 patients 2011-2015 (Source: Korean Centre for Disease Control and Prevention)](image)
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 remaining low (Figure 5).

Countries/areas in the tropical zone

In week 28 of 2015, increased influenza activity was reported in countries/areas in the tropical zone.

Outpatient Surveillance

Hong Kong (China)- ILI Surveillance
In week 28, the average consultation rate for influenza-like illness (ILI) among sentinel general outpatient clinics (GOPCs) was 9.4 ILI cases per 1,000 consultations which was similar to 9.2 recorded in the previous week (Figure 6). The average consultation rate for ILI among sentinel private doctors decreased to 40.5 ILI cases per 1,000 consultations from 46.8 recorded in the previous week (Figure 7).

China (South)- ILI Surveillance
During week 27, the percentage of outpatient or emergency visits for ILI at national sentinel hospitals in south China was 3.9%, lower than the last week (4.1%) and higher than the same week of 2011–2014 (2.8%, 3.2%, 3.2%and 3.5%) (Figure 8).

Singapore – ARI Surveillance
The average daily number of patients seeking treatment in the polyclinics for ARI increased from 2,319 (over 5.5 working days) in E-week 26 to 2,357 (over 5.5 working days) in E-week 27. (Figure 9).
Countries in the temperate zone of the southern hemisphere

Influenza activity is increased in most of the reporting countries in the southern hemisphere and surpassed country-specific threshold level for Australia and New Zealand.

**Australia – Laboratory-confirmed influenza**

As of 3 July 2015, there were 14,567 cases of laboratory confirmed influenza, with 2,700 notifications reported in the most recent fortnight. The annual increase in influenza activity has begun. Influenza notifications are higher compared with the same time in previous years. (Figure 10).
**New Zealand – Influenza like Illness**

ILI through sentinel surveillance was reported from 17 out of 20 District Health Boards with a national consultation rate of 53.9 per 100,000 (168 ILI consultations). The current rate of ILI is above the seasonal threshold (Figure 11).
Influenza Situation Update

22 July 2015

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 Kiribati and Vanuatu (Figure 12).

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

Epidemiological update:
http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/2015_06_29_surveillance_update_240.pdf?ua=1

Virological update: