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 followed seasonal patterns. Influenza activity displayed a decreasing trend in China, Japan and Mongolia.

China (North)

During week 9, 2015, the proportion of ILI cases among all consultations at national sentinel hospitals in north China was 3%, less than the last week and the same week of 2012 (4% and 3% respectively) (Figure 1).

Japan

In Japan, the number of influenza cases reported weekly per hospital sentinel site is following the known seasonal trend, with case numbers continuing to decrease (Figure 2).
Mongolia

In week 10, 2015, ILI activity in Mongolia followed the seasonal pattern (Figure 3). The proportion of patients hospitalized with pneumonia continued to decrease (Figure 4).

Figure 3: Rate of outpatients reported with ILI, Mongolia 2013-2015
(Source: National Influenza Center of Mongolia)

Figure 4: Proportion of patients with pneumonia among hospitalized, Mongolia 2013-2015
(Source: National Influenza Center of Mongolia)
Republic of Korea
For week 10, 2015, the overall proportion of patients who visited sentinel physicians for influenza like illness (ILI) was 27%. Although this proportion is above the baseline of 12%, the rate of ILI visits to GP sentinel sites is decreasing (Figure 5).

![Figure 5: The weekly rate of ILI visits, Republic of Korea 2011-2015](Source: Korean Centre for Disease Control and Prevention)

Countries/areas in the tropical zone
In countries/areas in the tropical zone, the overall ILI or ARI activity was variable. In week 10, 2015, ILI activity in Hong Kong and South China decreased, following the seasonal trends seen in previous years. The ARI activity in Singapore followed seasonal patterns, displaying similar trends as the same period of last year.

China (South)
During week 10, 2015, the percentage of outpatient or emergency visits for ILI at national sentinel hospitals in south China was 3%, lower than week 9, 2015 and the same week in 2012 and 2014 (4%, 3% and 3% respectively) (Figure 6).

![Figure 6: Percentage of visits due to ILI at national sentinel hospitals in south China, 2010-2015](Source: China National Influenza Center)
Hong Kong (China)
The overall ILI activity in Hong Kong decreased during week 9 and 10, 2015. In week 9, the average consultation rate ILI among sentinel general outpatient clinics decreased to 7.1 per 1,000 consultations. In week 10, rates declined further to 6.6 per 1,000 consultations and are similar to the rates reported for the same reporting period in 2014 (Figure 7).

![Figure 7: Consultation rates at sentinel general outpatient clinics, Hong Kong 2011-2015](Source: Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection)

In comparison to week 8, 2015 the average consultation rate for ILI among sentinel private doctors increased in week in week 9 and week 10, 2015, to 44.3 and 52.6 ILI cases per 1,000 consultations respectively (Figure 8).

![Figure 8: ILI consultation rates at sentinel private doctors, Hong Kong 2011-2015](Source: Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection)

In week 10, 2015, the admission rates in public hospitals with a principal diagnosis of influenza for persons aged 0-4 years, 5-64 years and 65 years or above were 0.8, 0.1 and 2.1 cases per 10,000 population respectively, compared with 1.5, 0.2, and 3.2 cases in week 9, 2015. Persons aged 65 years and over continue to have the highest rates of admission; however these rates are decreasing (Figure 9).
Singapore
The average daily number of patients seeking treatment in the polyclinics for ARI decreased from 2,821 (over 5.5 working days) in week 8 to 2,590 (over 5.5 working days) in week 9, 2015 (Figure 10).
Countries in the temperate zone of the southern hemisphere

In Australia and New Zealand, the flu season has ended. Epidemiological 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 Kiribati, Tonga, and Wallis and Futuna (Figure 11).

Figure 11: Cases of influenza-like illness, diarrhea and prolonged fever by week, Pacific Island Countries and Areas 2014-2015
(Source: Pacific Syndromic Surveillance report Week 8)
Influenza Situation Update

17 March 2015

Virological Surveillance Summary

In the Western Pacific Region, in week 9, 2015, Influenza A(H3) and Influenza B (lineage not determined) viruses predominated (Figure 12 and Table 1).

![Image](image-url)

Figure 12 Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype in Western Pacific Region, including Australia, Cambodia, China, New Caledonia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Viet Nam. (Source: FluNet, [www.who.int/flunet](http://www.who.int/flunet), GISRS, accessed 16 March 2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Reporting period</th>
<th>Specimens</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>H1 seasonal</td>
<td>(H1N1)pdm09</td>
<td>H3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>22 Feb - 28 Feb</td>
<td>10 positive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>22 Feb - 28 Feb</td>
<td>39 (9 positive)</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>Northern China</td>
<td>22 Feb - 28 Feb</td>
<td>1717 (177 positive)</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>57</td>
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<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>1 Mar - 7 Mar</td>
<td>865 positive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong SAR</td>
<td>1 Mar - 7 mar</td>
<td>808 positive</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>698</td>
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<td>Singapore</td>
<td>22 Feb - 28 Feb</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Southern China</td>
<td>22 Feb - 28 Feb</td>
<td>2812 (502 positive)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>130</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>22 Feb - 28 Feb</td>
<td>13 (3 positive)</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Australia</td>
<td>22 Feb - 28 Feb</td>
<td>231 (15 positive)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Data from WHO FluNet, MOH and Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System on virological influenza surveillance in Australia, China, Hong Kong SAR, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Viet Nam, 2015.
Countries in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere

China (North)
During week 9, 2015, the percentage of specimens that were tested positive for influenza in north China was 18%, lower than in week 8 (Figure 13). Influenza A(H3N2) and influenza B (Yamagata) were the predominant viruses reported.

(More text and diagrams)

Mongolia
In week 10, 2015, most received specimens tested positive for influenza A (H3) viruses (Figure 14).
Republic of Korea
In week 10, 2015, 865 specimens were tested positive for influenza viruses, including 620 (72%) influenza A(H3N2), 112 (13%) influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and 133 (15%) influenza B (Figure 15).

Countries/areas in the tropical zone
China (South)
During week 9, 2015, the percentage of specimens that tested positive for influenza in south China was 10%, slightly higher than week 8, 2015. Influenza A(H3N2) and influenza B (Yamagata) were the predominant viruses reported (Figure 16).
Hong Kong (China)
Among the respiratory specimens received in week 10, 808 (20%) were tested positive for seasonal influenza viruses, including 26 (0.56%) influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, 698 (17%) influenza A(H3), 85 (2%) influenza B and 2 (0.05%) influenza C (Figure 17).

![Figure 17: Number and percentage of specimens tested positive for influenza by week, Hong Kong 2011-2015](Source: Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection)

Singapore
The proportion of positive influenza results among ILI specimens was 31% (n=126) for the previous 4 weeks. Of the ILI specimens that tested positive for influenza in February 2015, 35% were positive for influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and 33% were positive for influenza A(H3N2) or influenza B (Figure 18).

![Figure 18: Distribution of influenza types by Month, Singapore 2010-2015](Source: Singapore Ministry of Health)

Global influenza situation updates:
Epidemiological update:
Virological update:
[http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/updates/summaryreport](http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/updates/summaryreport)