Review of the 2019 influenza season in Australia and what to expect in 2020

lan Barr

Deputy Director

WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and
Research on Influenza

www.influenzacentre.org



The Melbourne WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza is supported by the Australian Government Department of Health



A reality check?



Get a grippe, America. The flu is a much bigger threat than coronavirus, for now.



By Lenny Bernstein

Feb. 2, 2020 at 12:00 a.m. GMT+11

The rapidly spreading virus has closed schools in Knoxville, Tenn., cut blood donations to dangerous levels in Cleveland and prompted limits on hospital visitors in Wilson, N.C. More ominously, it has infected as many as 26 million people in the United States in just four months, killing up to 25,000 so far.

In other words, a difficult but not extraordinary flu season in the United States, the kind most people shrug off each winter or handle with rest, fluids and pain relievers if they contract the illness.

But this year, a new coronavirus from China has focused attention on diseases that can sweep through an entire population, rattling the public despite the current magnitude of the threat. Clearly, the flu poses the bigger and more pressing peril; a handful of cases of the new respiratory illness have been reported in the United States, none of them fatal or apparently even life-threatening.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/time-for-a-reality-check-america-the-flu-is-a-much-bigger-threat-than-coronavirus-for-now/2020/01/31/46a15166-4444-11ea-b5fc-eefa848cde99 story.html

How was the 2019 SH influenza season for you?

- Normal season nothing much different from any other
- Low season similar to 2010, 2018
- Medium season similar to 2011, 2013
- Big season similar to 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016
- Massive season Once in every decade or two
 - Pandemic of 2009
 - Flumageddon 2017
 - Flunami of

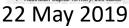


Summary of the 2019 Australian Influenza season

- A big "Influenza" season by most measures
 - NNDSS Lab confirmed influenza data
 - Highest "interseasonal" influenza activity (Jan-Mar) on record (again)
 - Highest ever number of lab confirmed cases recorded;
 (2019: 312,978, 2018: 58,736, 2017: 251,150)
 - High activity in Autumn-early winter (Apr-Jun) approx. x10 usual,
 Early Peak (Wk 27 w/b 1/7 norm mid Aug), very long season (30wk vs 12-16w avg.)
 - ASPREN-GP ILI data Extended activity March-October, broad peak
 - Very high press coverage around extent and severity of season
- Characteristics of season
 - Australia had mainly A(H3N2), followed by A(H1N1)pdm, some B's
 - FluCan data
 - High number of hospital admissions 3915 (April 1-Oct 6) (725 2018, 3969 2017)
 - 6.3% admitted directly to ICU (8.1% 2018, 8.9% 2017; 7% 2015, 11% 2014)
 - Most hospitalizations due to A(H3N2), then B, small number of A(H1N1)pdm

Influenza deaths (NNDSS); 902 deaths (2018 148) med. 86y (<1-106y)







National World Lifestyle Travel Entertainment Technology Finance Sport

MABC

6 May 2019

PHOTO: There has been an explosion of influenza cases in

RELATED STORY: Hospital runs out of flu vaccines as case

RELATED STORY: A deadly flu season is approaching, so when

RELATED STORY: Doctors expect the flu to kill at least 4,000

. At this time in 2018, 3,803 people had been

people this year. Here's what you need to k

June 18 2019

Key points:

Just In Politics World Business Analysis Sport Science Health Arts Fact C

BREAKING NEWS A woman in her 20s has become the fourth case of novel coronavirus to be confirmed

Flu cases hit uncharted territory in NSW, but

Sites

WINEWS

By Nick Sas and Liv Casben

Undated 6 May 2019 3:09nm

cases to the end of April

🕯 news

cases reported.

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vaccines at the ready

Experts are baffled over an unprecedented

start to the flu season, with more than 10,000

people diagnosed in NSW so far this year almost three times more than the same period

As NSW Health prepares for the impending peak

flu season with 2.5 million vaccinations at the ready, the figures have left health authorities

questioning how it will impact the state's health

The figures, revealed in the NSW communicable

diseases report, show 10.121 recorded influenza

It is almost triple last year's influenza figures for the

same period (3,803) and is also almost four times

2017 was a record year for the virus, with 103,852

"We don't know what it means because this is a

new phenomenon," NSW Health communicable

the number recorded in 2017 (2,884).

lifestyle health > health problems

Killer flu season sees record numbers of Flu season has turned deadly with sharp rise in cases and deaths - and it's only just national death toll beginning

By Sarah Swain | 11:00am May 22, 2019





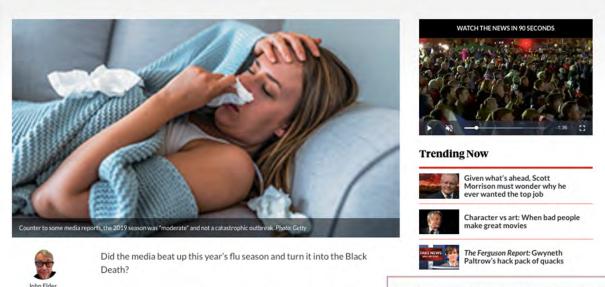


Flu deaths 2019 Australia: Three influenza strains causing deadly flu season

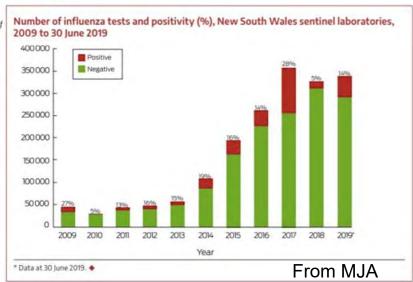




Flu season: 'Mutant crisis' created by media's drongo reading of numbers 9 September 2019



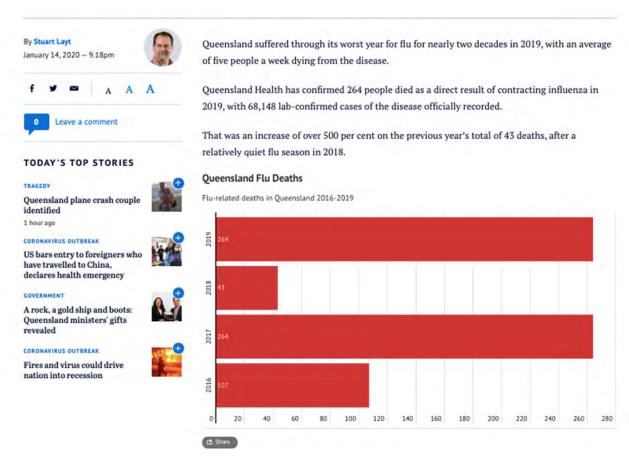
Just about, according to a letter published online in the Medical Journal of



brisbane times

NATIONAL QUEENSLAND FLU SEASON

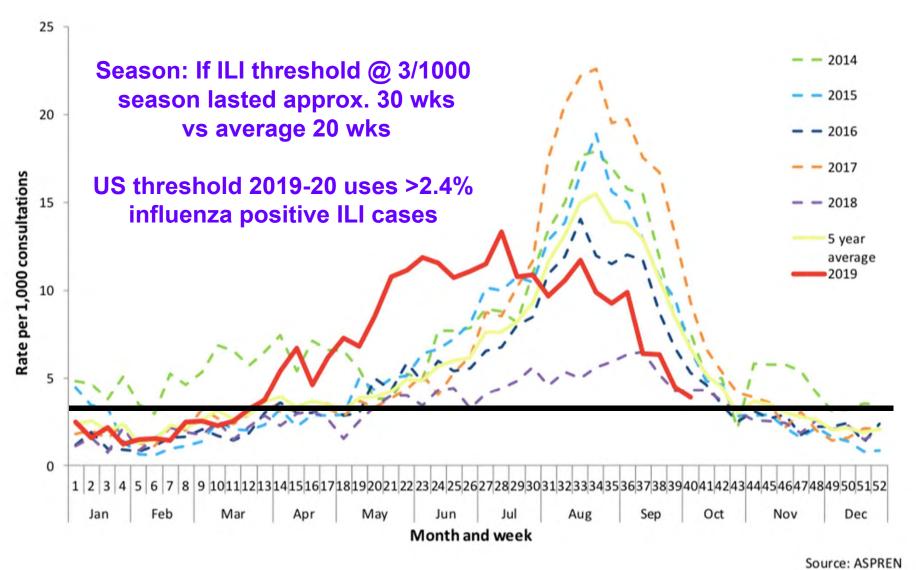
Queensland's record flu season killed five a week in 2019



14 Jan 2020

https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/national/queensland/queensland-s-record-flu-season-killed-five-a-week-in-2019-20200114-p53rgv.html

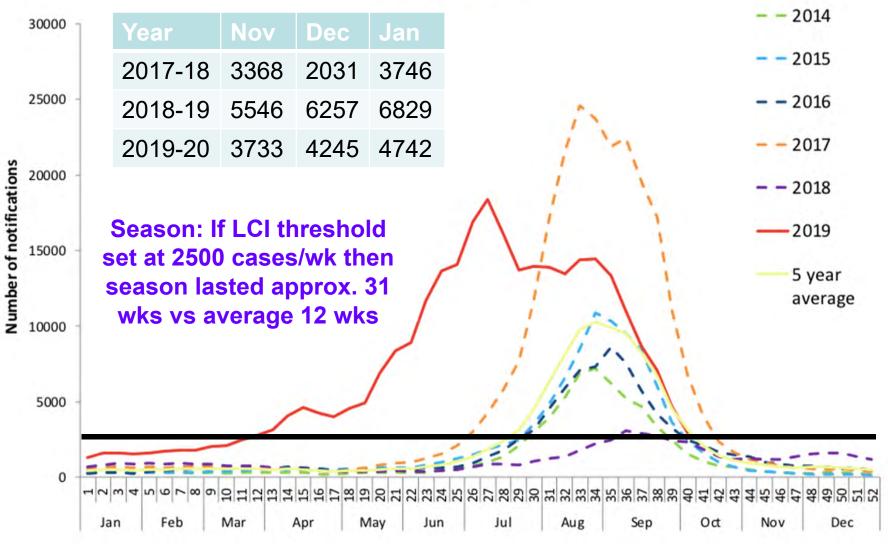
Influenza-like illness (ILI) 2013-19 in Australia





WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza

Lab confirmed influenza in Australia 2013-19

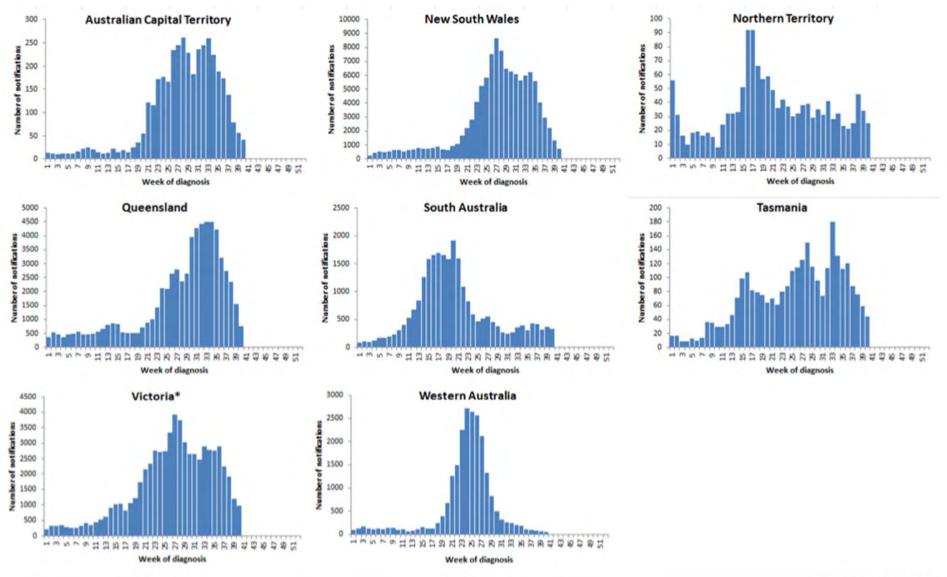


Month and week of diagnosis



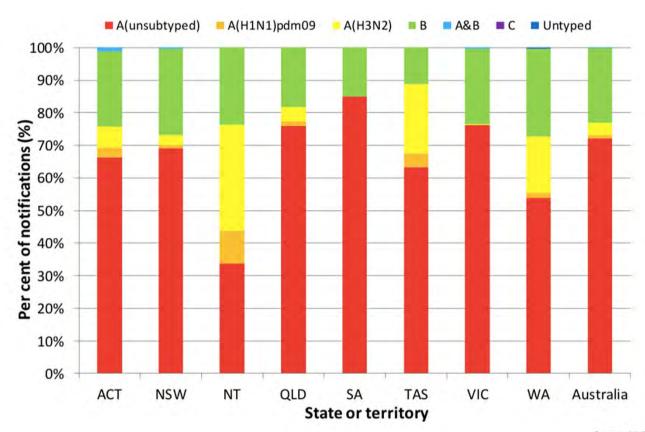
Source: NNDSS wife collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza VIDRL

Lab confirmed influenza in Australia 2019 by State – Early start; Extended season, multiple peaks



NNDSS Laboratory confirmed influenza cases by state 2019

| State | # | Rate/ 100K |
|-------|--------|---------------|
| ACT | 4072 | 967 |
| NSW | 116368 | 1456 |
| NT | 1736 | 701 |
| QLD | 68075 | 1358 |
| SA | 27060 | 1558 |
| Tas | 3137 | 593 |
| Vic | 69285 | 1072 |
| WA | 23245 | 895 |
| Aust | 312978 | 1252 |

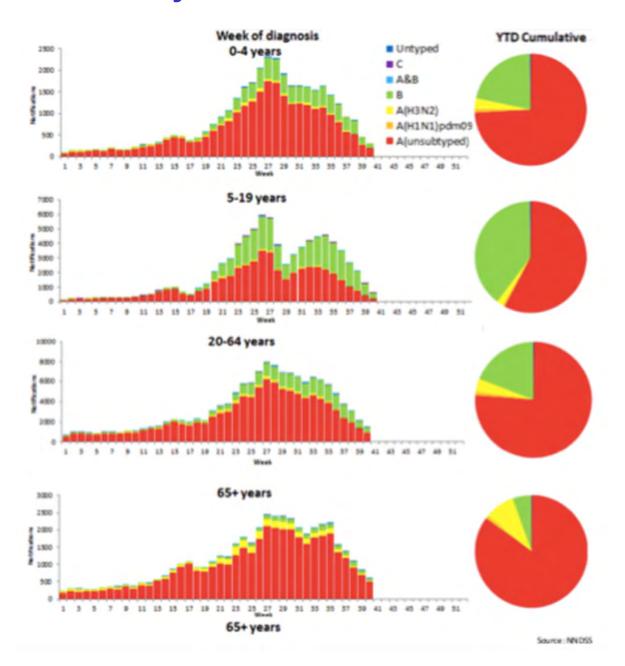


Source: NNDSS



AUSTRALIAN INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE REPORT

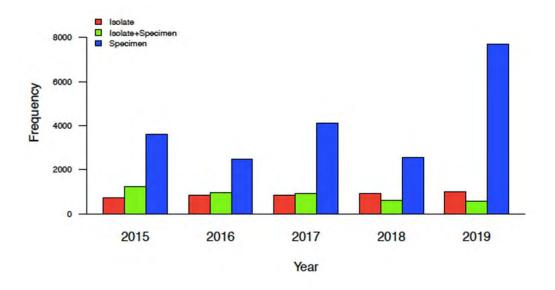
NNDSS Laboratory confirmed influenza cases by age 2019



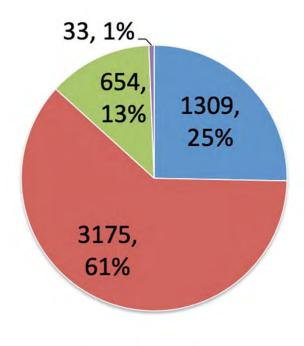


WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza VIDRL

Sample types received at WHO CC Melbourne



Type/subtype proportions from Australian samples received at WHO CC in 2019

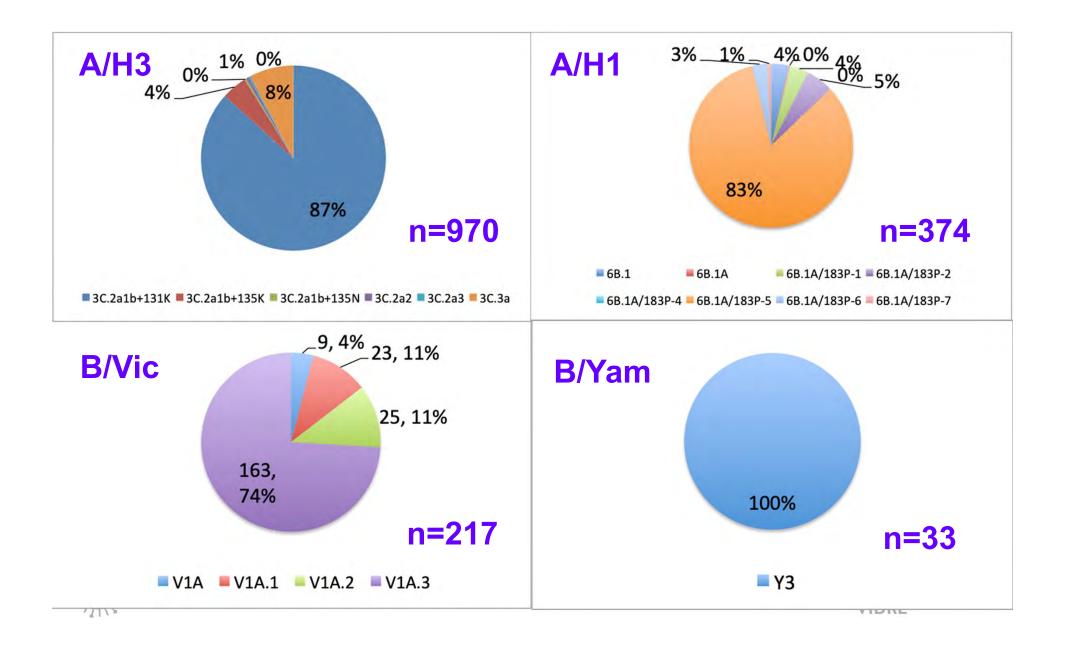




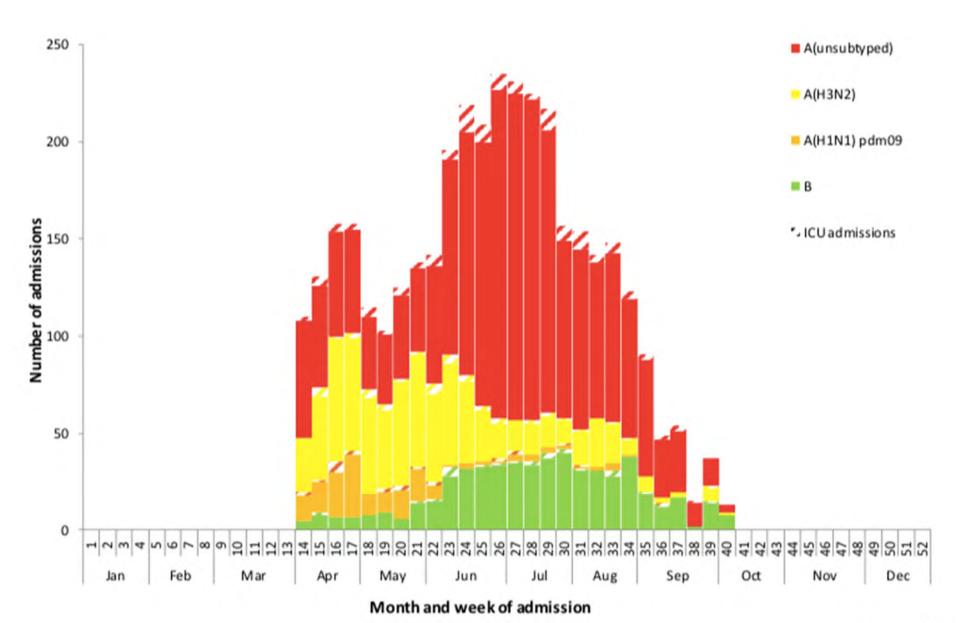


Molecular diversity of Australian influenza viruses in 2019

(Based on Haemagglutinin gene sequencing by WHO CC Melb)



FluCAN hospitalisation data 2019 (1 April-6 October)



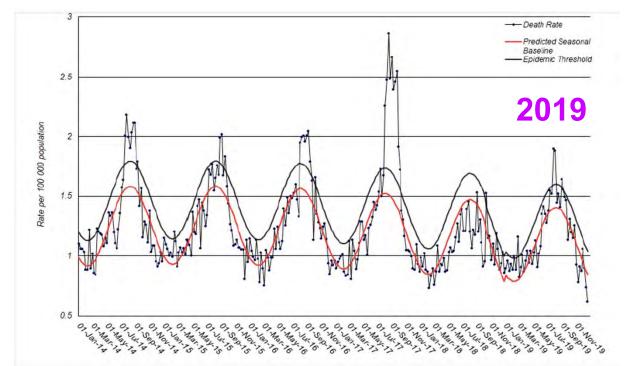
Source: FluCAN

Reported influenza outbreaks in NSW institutions

NSW 2014-2019

| Year | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| No. of outbreaks | 122 | 103 | 252 | 543 | 42 | 383 |

Excess deaths in NSW







NNDSS reported influenza associated deaths in Australia

| | 1 January to 31 December | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|-------------------|---------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 5 year average | 2019* | | | | | |
| Notifications*† | 67,670 | 100,556 | 90,858 | 251,151 | 58,858 | 113,819 | 307,907 | | | | | |
| Deaths § | 189 | 222 | 273 | 1181 | 148 | 403 | 902 | | | | | |
| Case Fatality | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rate | 0.28% | 0.22% | 0.30% | 0.47% | 0.25% | 0.35% | 0.29% | | | | | |

[•]Data on 'Deaths' should always be used with extreme caution as clinical information is not always collected across the various jurisdictions and timely mortality data is not available. These notification data are based on data extracted from the NNDSS on the date indicated above. Due to the dynamic nature of the NNDSS, data on this extract are subject to retrospective revision and may vary from data reported in published NNDSS reports and reports of notification data by states and territories. In general notification data represent only a proportion of the total cases occurring in the community, that is, only those cases for which health care was sought, a test conducted and a diagnosis made, followed by a notification to health authorities. The degree of under-representation of all cases is unknown and is most likely variable by disease and jurisdiction. In interpreting these data it is important to note that changes in notifications over time may not solely reflect changes in disease prevalence or incidence. Depending on the disease changes in testing policies; screening programs including the preferential testing of high risk populations; the use of less invasive and more sensitive diagnostic tests; and periodic awareness campaigns, may influence the number of notifications that occur annually.





New Zealand Influenza Intelligence Report



Week Ending 29 September 2019

National Overview

In the last week of seasonal influenza surveillance for the year, indicators of influenza-like illness (ILI) activity in the community have remained low. Both ILI activity and the rate of people presenting to general practices (GP) with ILI who test positive for influenza virus are below the baseline level. Influenza A(NGNZ) and B/Nictoria viruses are co-circulating in the community and influenza A viruses are still predominating in hospitals. Virology reports indicate there has been a mutation in the influenza B/Nictoria virus strain circulating in New Zealand during the 2019 season. This is expected to reduce the 2019 seasonal vaccine effectiveness for this influenza virus strain.

Weekly General Practice Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Rates To 29 Sep 19



National indicators of community influenza-like illness (ILI) activity have mostly continued to decrease over the past few weeks.

Average Seasonal Rate GP ILI

6 1 "

Indicators of severity remain below seasonal baseline levels. Activity in Intensive Care Units is low.

Arrow colour indicates whether the current weekly change is statistically significant. Healthline Calls Hospital Stays GP Influenza ED Visits ICU Influenza

Activity by DHB

The national rate of General Practice (GP) visits for influenza-like illness (iLI) remains below the seasonal baseline level, and continues to decline. South Canterbury and Capital & Coast DHEs have recorded the highest ILI GP visit rates this week. Rates of Healthline calls for ILI also decreased in the last week. West Coast, Tairawhiti and Hutt Valley DHEs had the highest rates of Healthline calls this week.

GP Visits (ILI) Rate by DHB - Current Week

Control Measures

The 2019 publically funded seasonal influenza vaccine contains the following four components (i.e. a quadrivalent vaccine):

an A/Michigan, 45(2015 (H3N1)pdm00-like virus; an A/Switzerland, 005G/2017 (H3N2)-like virus; a B/Colorado/05(2017-like virus (B/Victoria/2/87 lineage); and a B/Phuket/3072(2013-like virus (B/Yamagata/16/88 lineage).

Overseas acute respiratory disease surveillance

«Pacific region: In Australia, following early, high seasonal influenza and ILI activity in May to July, activity has been continuing to decline through September.1,2 Over recent surveillance sweak, activity decreased in most states and territoriae, except for some regions of the Northern Enritory and Western Australia. Nationally, influenza A(HAX2) virus continues to predominate, while the proportion of cases attributed to influenza 8 viruses has been steadily increasing through hugust and September. Circulating influenza A(HLN1)pdm09 and influenza B(Yamagata-lineage viruses have been well matched to the 2019 vaccine while some A(H2N2) and B(Victoria-lineage viruses have been less well matched, although overall vaccine effectiveness is reportedly good from preliminary estimates. Clinical severity for the season to date is low.

Outbreaks of influenza A and B are continuing in New Caledonia.3

- Asia: Influenza activity remained low across Southern Asia, except for continued high activity in Shutan and increased activity in Nepal (both A)ICIAI2) and B)Victoria inseaply. Activity was low in most of South East Asia, although moderate detections of predominantly H(H1N2)pdm00 and B victors continued in Malaysia and Myanmar, and all seasonal sub-types or circulated in Intaland.
- South and Central America: Activity in South America was low, except for an increase in predominantly 8 viruses in Chile.1 in Central America, 81 Salvador reported an increase in A(HENE) pdm09.
- · Africa: Currently low influenza activity overall 1 Activity in South Africa returned to below the seasonal threshold.
- . Northern Hemisphere: Currently low influenza activity overall.1
- Emerging diseases: In 2019, engoing detections of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) in the Middle East and human infection with avian Influenza A(I/YND), A(I/XND) and A(I/END) in China have been reported (associated with exposures to careels and binds, respectively), 4,5. These emerging viruses (MERS-CoV, A(I/YND), A(I/XND) are not known to spread easily from person at present and are classified by the WHO as being of low risk of international spread, 5,6

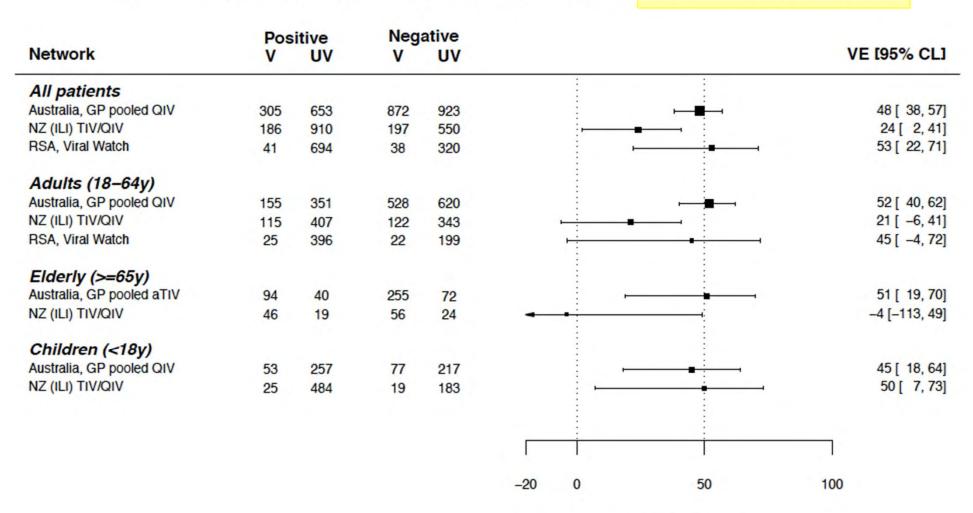
Further information on overseas acute respiratory disease activity:

- 1. WHO Global Flu Update: www.srbo.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance/en/ (accessed 2/10/19)
- 2. Australia: www.health.gov.au/flureport (accessed 2/10/2019)
- 3. Pacific: www.spc.int/phd/apidemics/ (accessed 2/10/19)
- 4. WHO Emergency Preparedness, response: www.who.int/csr/don/archive/year/2019/en/ (accessed 2/10/19)
- 5. WHO Avian and other zoonotic influenza: www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/en/ (accessed 2/10/19)
- 6. WHO Global Summary and Assessment of Risk:

https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/326126/WHO-MERS-RA-19.1-eng.pdf/us-1 (accessed 2/10/19)

September 2019

Figure 1. Interim 2019 southern hemisphere VE against influenza A&B, outpatients



Vaccine effectiveness

Figure 2. Interim 2019 southern hemisphere VE against influenza A&B, hospitalised patients

| | Pos | itive | Neg | ative | | | |
|-------------------|------|-------|-----|-------|------------|--|------------|
| Network | V | UV | V | UV | | | VE [95% CL |
| All patients | . 65 | | | | : | | .4 |
| Australia, FluCAN | 1255 | 1876 | 685 | 776 | : | ⊢ ■ ! − | 47 [37, 5 |
| NZ (SARI) TIV | 58 | 147 | 148 | 306 | : | | 53 [28, 6 |
| REVELAC-i TIV | 181 | 290 | 756 | 475 | | - | 57 [46, 6 |
| Adults (18-64y) | | | | | | | |
| Australia, FluCAN | 234 | 510 | 150 | 214 | | ⊢ | 46 [23, 6 |
| NZ (SARI) TIV | 16 | 58 | 47 | 85 | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | 50 [4, 7 |
| REVELAC-i TIV | 34 | 123 | 107 | 153 | | ⊢ | 60 [35, 7 |
| Elderly (>=65y) | | | | | | | |
| Australia, FluCAN | 727 | 304 | 316 | 117 | <u>.</u> : | | 26 [-3, 4 |
| NZ (SARI) TIV | 41 | 35 | 69 | 35 | - | | 41 [-9, 6 |
| REVELAC-i TIV | 105 | 127 | 397 | 226 | | - | 54 [36, 6 |
| Children (<18y) | | | | | | | |
| Australia, FluCAN | 293 | 1061 | 219 | 444 | | : | 68 [57, 7 |
| REVELAC-i TIV | 42 | 40 | 252 | 96 | : | | 61 [34, 7 |
| Target | | | | | | | |
| Australia, FluCAN | 1080 | 1054 | 567 | 448 | | ⊢ ■ <u>;</u> | 46 [34, 5 |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | Гi | i | |
| | | | | | -20 0 | 50 | 100 |

Notes: Elderly Australians received high dose or adjuvanted vaccine under the national program

September 2019

Figure 5. Interim 2019 southern hemisphere VE against influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, outpatients

| | Pos | itive | tive Negative | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-------|---------------|-----|-----|----------|-------------|--------------|
| Network | V | UV | ٧ | UV | | | | VE [95% CL] |
| All patients | | | | | | : | | 21.00 |
| Australia, GP pooled QIV | 25 | 64 | 872 | 923 | | : | · : • | 63 [33, 81] |
| NZ (ILI) TIV/QIV | 18 | 66 | 197 | 550 | - | - | | 10 [-59, 50] |
| Adults (18–64y) | | | | | | | ĺ | |
| Australia, GP pooled QIV | 14 | 37 | 528 | 620 | | | | 63 [33, 81] |
| NZ (ILI) TIV/QIV | 14 | 40 | 122 | 343 | - | | | 2 [-87, 48] |
| | | | | | | <u> </u> | | |
| | | | | | | • | | |
| | | | | | -20 | 0 | 50 | 100 |



September 2019

Figure 11. Interim 2019 southern hemisphere VE against influenza A(H3N2), outpatients

| | Pos | itive | Neg | ative | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|----------------|-------------|-----|----------------|
| Network | V | UV | V | UV | | | | 1 | /E [95% CL] |
| All patients | | | | | | : | - : | | |
| Australia, GP pooled QIV | 241 | 401 | 872 | 923 | | : | ⊢ | | 39 [25, 51] |
| NZ (ILI) TIV/QIV | 104 | 294 | 197 | 550 | - | - | | | -2 [-39, 25] |
| RSA, Viral Watch | 39 | 665 | 38 | 320 | | : | - | | 53 [23, 72] |
| Adults (18-64y) | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Australia, GP pooled QIV | 131 | 218 | 528 | 620 | | | ⊢ | | 42 [26, 55] |
| NZ (ILI) TIV/QIV | 60 | 163 | 122 | 343 | - | -:- | | | -3 [-48, 28] |
| RSA, Viral Watch | 24 | 374 | 22 | 199 | | : | | | 47 [-1, 72] |
| Elderly (>=65y) | | | | | | : | | | |
| Australia, GP pooled aTIV | 83 | 36 | 255 | 72 | | | ⊢ | | 53 [20, 72] |
| NZ (ILI) TIV/QIV | 35 | 11 | 56 | 24 | - | - : | ─ | | -36 [-212, 40] |
| Children (<18y) | | | | | | : | | | |
| Australia, GP pooled QIV | 34 | 135 | 77 | 217 | - | -:- | <u> </u> | | 30 [-12, 57] |
| NZ (ILI) TIV/QIV | 9 | 120 | 19 | 183 | - | : | | | 28 [-65, 68] |
| | | | | | | ÷ | | | |
| | | | | | | i | İ | | |
| | | | | | -20 | 0 | 50 | 100 | |

September 2019

Figure 18. Interim 2019 southern hemisphere VE against influenza B, outpatients

| | Pos | itive | Neg | ative | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|----------|-----------------------|-----|-------------|
| Network | V | UV | V | UV | | | | V | E [95% CL] |
| All patients | | | | | | | | | 1.00 |
| Australia, GP pooled QIV | 32 | 169 | 872 | 923 | | | : _ | | 68 [51, 79] |
| NZ (ILI) TIV/QIV | 9 | 45 | 197 | 550 | | | | | 53 [33, 67] |
| Adults (18-64y) | | | | | | | | | |
| Australia, GP pooled QIV | 14 | 70 | 528 | 620 | | : | | _ | 80 [66, 90] |
| NZ (ILI) TIV/QIV | 16 | 58 | 47 | 85 | | <u>:</u> | | | 50 [4, 74] |
| Children (<18y) | | | | | | | | | |
| Australia, GP pooled QIV | 17 | 94 | 77 | 217 | | | · · · · · | | 55 [20, 76] |
| | | | | | | | i | | |
| | | | | | | i | į | | |
| | | | | | -20 | 0 | 50 | 100 | |
| | | | | | | | Vaccine effectiveness | | |



Influenza vaccines for Australia and NZ in 2020

- H1N1pdm A/Brisbane/02/2018-like
- H3 A/South Australia/34/2019-like

Trivalent vaccine:

B – B/Washington/02/2019-like (B/Vic)

Quadrivalent vaccine:

- B B/Phuket/3073/2013-like (B/Yam)
- B B/Washington/02/2019-like (B/Vic)

*Changes to 2019 recommendations







'Worthwhile to consider': Does the world need a pentavalent flu vaccine?

ADD TOPIC TO EMAIL ALERTS

December 10, 2019



"Influenza vaccine is effective at preventing influenza illness, but protection against H3N2 viruses remains a challenge compared to that achieved for H1N1 and B viruses," Atmar told Healio.











In their commentary, Atmar and Keitel suggest adding a second H3N2 strain to the seasonal influenza vaccine, "an approach taken in some veterinary vaccines," Atmar said.

Atmar noted that a second influenza B component was added to the seasonal vaccine to make it quadrivalent based upon the experience that the lineage of the predominant circulating B viruses was different than that in the trivalent vaccine about 50% of the time.

"That said, there are significant logistical issues that need to be considered, including the challenges that manufacturers would face producing a pentavalent vaccine," he said. "We don't know that this approach will improve our ability to select strains from clades of H3N2 viruses that subsequently circulate, but we thought it was worthwhile to consider."

Developing a seasonal vaccine that provides longer lasting and wider protection has long been a goal of researchers.

Commentary by: Robert L Atmar, Wendy A Keitel Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA

The Journal of Infectious
Diseases,
https://doi.org/10.1093/infdis/jiz54



An early start of the 2020 Australian Influenza season?



LATEST NEWS Programmer of Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000

Proclamation on Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Pers

Timeline

U.S. President Trump's Remarks at White House Summit on Human Trafficking: 20th Anniversary of Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000

12:50 PM AEDT

Proclamation on Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Persons who Pose a Risk of Transmitting 2019 Novel Coronavirus

12:20 PM AEDT

Grand designs in fine fashion parade

12:06 PM AEDT

Government's cashless-debit scheme with big banks is a shameless attempt to distract from need for Newstart

DECEMBER 19, 2019 11:28 AM AEDT

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Influenza Spike in Central Australia

Department of Health

Central Australians are being urged to protect themselves against influenza even though it is late in the flu season.

Over the past three weeks there has been an unseasonal increase in influenza cases in the centre and the Central Australia Health Service is asking local residents to be alert to the possibility of flu in your community.

"Cases were first seen in Alice Springs but are now spreading to remote areas," said Dr Belinda Greenwood Smith, Coordinator, Public Health Unit - Disease Control.

"This is very late in the year compared to our usual season, but it is never too late to get vaccinated, particularly

19 December 2019



WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza VIDRL

The NH 2019-20 influenza season (so far)



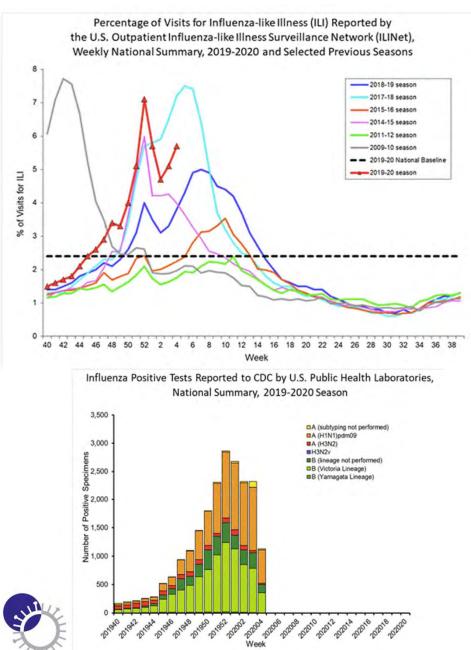
US influenza activity at high levels





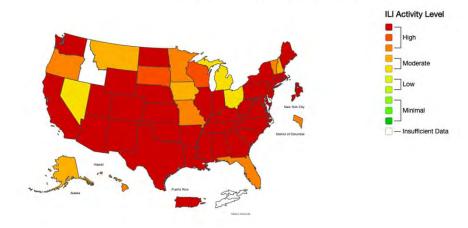
WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza VIDRL

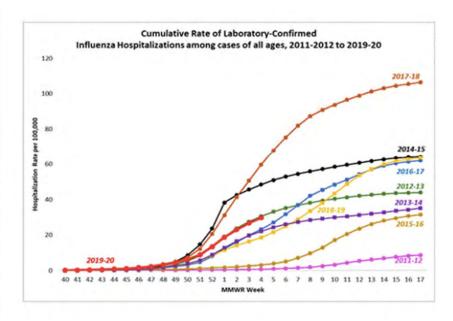
CDC data on influenza in USA



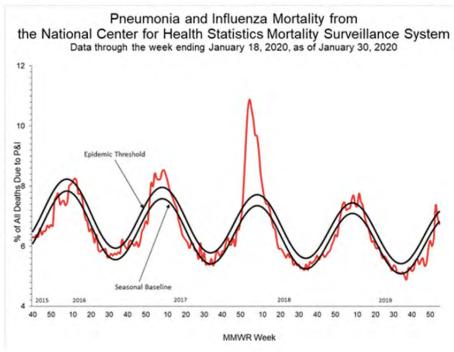


A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division
Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity Level Indicator Determined by Data Reported to ILINet
2019-20 Influenza Season Week 4 ending Jan 25, 2020



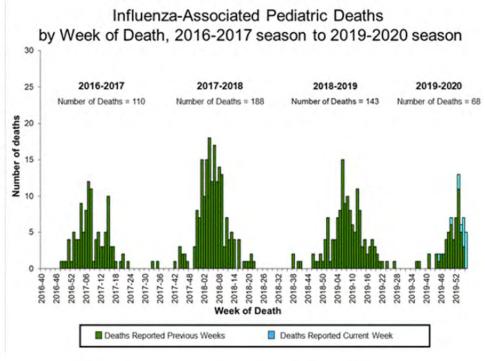


USA influenza related deaths



As at 24 Jan 2020: 173.3M doses of influenza vaccine distributed (sufficient for 53% of population)

"So far, 10,000 people have died and 180,000 people have been hospitalized during the 2019-2020 flu season, according to preliminary estimates from the CDC"





US "real time" tracking of influenza using smart thermometers - Kinsa

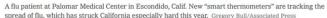


The New York Times

GLOBAL HEALTH

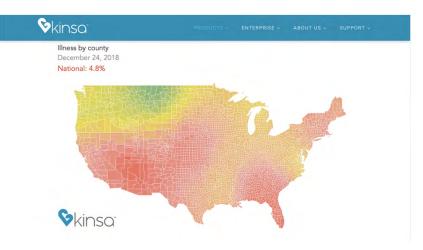
'Smart Thermometers' Track Flu Season in Real Time







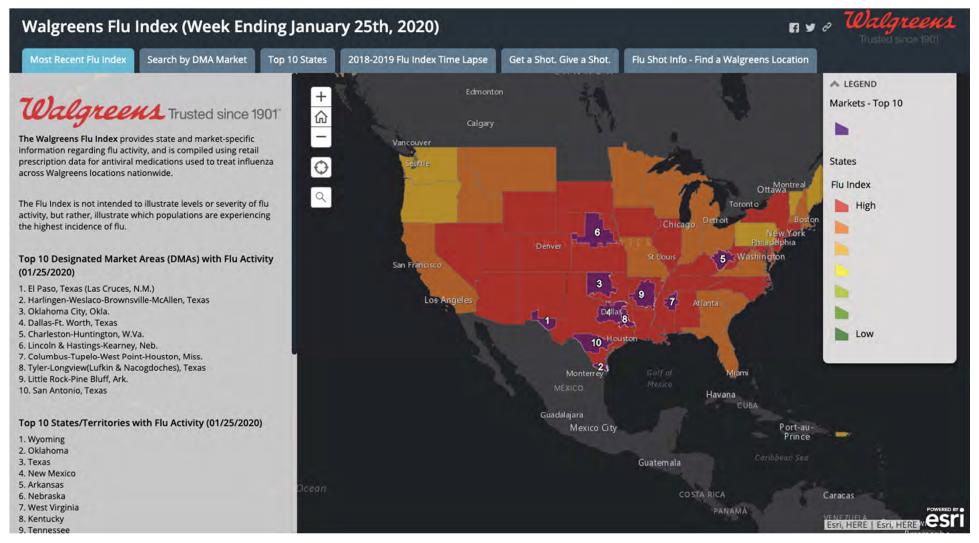






https://www.kinsahealth.co/products/health-map/

Walgreens Flu Index – based on sales of antiviral medications at their stores in the USA



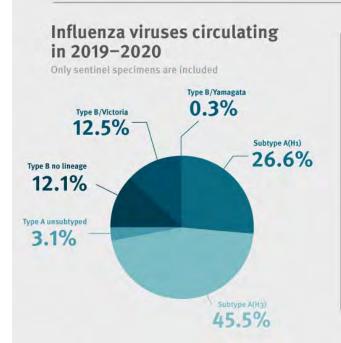


https://walgreens.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appReference and id=40d0763cd3cc42428b26f85202108469&rel=0

Influenza in Europe

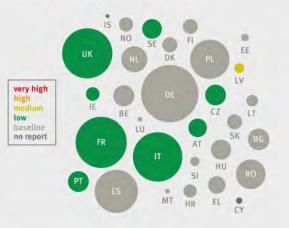


Data from EU and EEA countries for the 2019–2020 season Week 3 (14 Jan–20 Jan 2020)

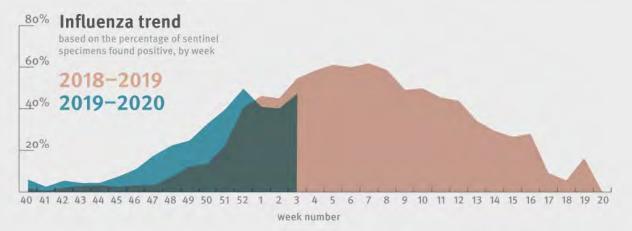


Influenza intensity in week 3

based on sentinel reports of influenza-like illness and/or acute respiratory infections



Bubble size is indicative of country population



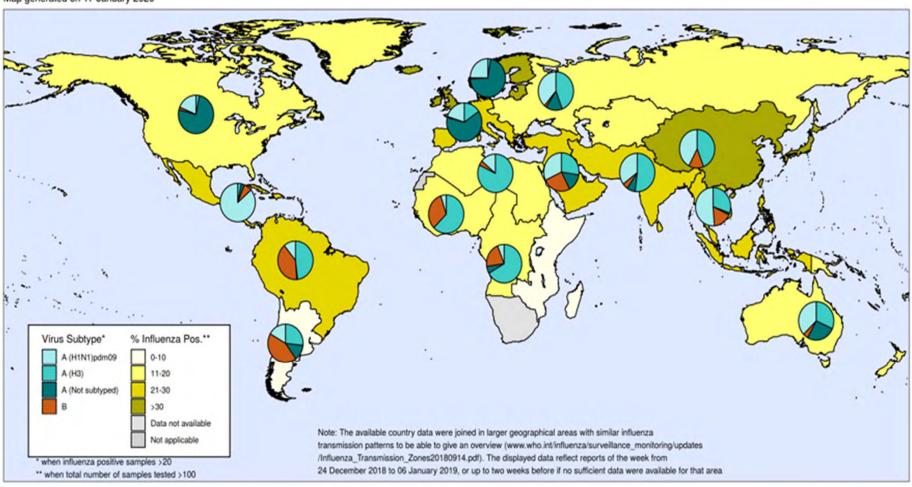


10 Collaborating Centre Reference and search on Influenza

WHO Flunet global influenza map (at 17 Jan 2020)

Percentage of respiratory specimens that tested positive for influenza By influenza transmission zone

Map generated on 17 January 2020



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.



Summary of influenza seasons

- 2019 a very high influenza season in Australia
- 2019 an lower activity season in NZ (below seasonal baseline level)
- Influenza A(H3N2) predominated in Aus + NZ
- B-Victoria lineage most common B virus in Australia (10:1 Vic:Yam) & NZ
- Record number of vaccines distributed in Australia 12.5M doses (50% pop)
- Vaccine match good for H1N1pdm and B's, A(H3N2) moderate
- Very few oseltamivir/zanamivir resistant viruses detected; No baloxavir marboxil resistance
- Hospital admissions & deaths in Australia both high
- Vaccine Effectiveness: Australia good; Overall A/B VE=48%; H3 lower VE=39%
- H3N2 + H1N1pdm + B/Vic components of Australian/NZ 2020 vaccine updated from 2019
- Influenza activity 2019-20 in Nth Hemisphere; high in USA and low in EU, low in Japan
- A(H1N1)pdm09 increasing in USA after B-Vic early, ? Second wave, Japan mostly H1pdm, China mix H3/B/Vic, EU mix of H3/H1/B-Vic
- Prediction for 2018; A quiet year with B's and H1N1pdm's predominating!!
- Prediction for 2019: A moderate year with mixed viruses and more H3N2!!



Prediction for 2020: A quiet year with H1pdm viruses predominating!!

Acknowledgments

- Various influenza reports
 - Australian influenza surveillance report
 - NSW Influenza report
 - ESR Influenza weekly update
 - CDC Fluview
 - ECDC Influenza report
 - WHO reports

SURVEILLANCE

Intense interseasonal influenza outbreaks, Australia, 2018/19

lan G Barr--', Yi Mo Deng', Miguel L Grau², Alvin X Han¹³, Robin Gilmour², Melissa Irwin², Peter Markey², Kevin Freeman², Geoff Higgins¹³, Mark Turra¹⁴, Naomi Komadina², Heldi Peck², Robert Booy^{11,12}, Sebastian Maurer-Stroh^{12,13}, Vijaykrishna Dhanasekaran¹³, Sheena Sullivan¹²

1. WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research, Melbourne, Australia

- . Bright of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne, Australia Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia Department of Microbiology, Biomedicine Discovery Institute Monash University, Clayton, Australia Bioinformatic institute, Agency for Science, Technology and Research (ArSTAR), Singapore National University of Singapore (UNIS) Graduate School for Integrative Science and Engineering, Singapore Communicable Diseases Branch, Health Protection New South Wales, St. Leonards, Australia
- Rapid Surveillance, Centre for Epidemiology, New South Wales Ministry of Health, St. Leonards, Australia Centre for Disease Control, Northern Territory Department of Health, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 9. Serology/Molecular Biology Territory Pathology, Royal Darwin Hospital, Northern Territory Government Health, Darwin,
- Australia
 10. Microbiology and Infectious Disease Directorate, SA Pathology, Adelaide, Australia
 11. National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance (NCIRS), Westmead, Australia
 12. Department of Paediatrics and Adolescent Health, Faculty of Health and Medicine, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia
 13. Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Correspondence: lan Barr (lan.Barr@influenzacentre.org)

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- Other WHO CC's
- Surveillance Division of OHP, Commonwealth DoH



WPRO and WHO HQ Geneva

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