Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living (MHSAL)

Influenza Surveillance Report 2019–2020

Week 7 (Feb. 9–15, 2020)

Data extracted Feb.21, 2020 at 11:00 am

Next report date: Feb. 28, 2020

Provincial Update: Influenza activity has been decreasing. However, influenza continues to circulate at a higher level provincially, resulting in outbreaks. In Week 7, the proportion of patients who tested positive for influenza among all tested respiratory patients decreased from previous weeks (29%). Both influenza A and B detections decreased from the previous week. The number of respiratory visits to the Emergency Department was within expected levels for this time of a year after continuing decrease from Week 52. Overall, younger populations have been affected more in this season. Almost all influenza B cases and three quarters of influenza A cases are below the age of 65.

National Update: As of Week 6, influenza activity remained high with the majority of indicators remained similar or decreased slightly from the previous week. Influenza A and B continued to co-circulate in almost equal proportions. Influenza A(H1N1) was dominating and represented 85% of subtyped influenza A specimens in week 6. The highest cumulative hospitalization rates are among children under 5 years of age and adults 65 years of age and older.

International Update: In Week 7, influenza activity remained high but decreased slightly. Severity levels (hospitalizations and deaths) are not high at this point of a year. During recent weeks, influenza A(H1N1) detections continued to increase. Overall, numbers of influenza A(H1N1) viruses and influenza B/Victoria viruses reported are approximately equal.

Laboratory** — This Week

Laboratory-confirmed influenza cases:

- Influenza A: **74**
- Influenza B: **22**

From Sept.

- Influenza A: **673**
- Influenza B: **643**

Severity — Week 6

Severe outcomes associated with influenza:

- Hospitalizations: **0**
- ICU* admissions: **0**
- Deaths: **0**

From Sept.

- Hospitalizations: **274**
- ICU* admissions: **27**
- Deaths: **20**

Outbreaks — This Week

Laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreaks:

- Influenza A: **3**
- Influenza B: **0**
- Influenza A & B: **0**

From Sept.

- Influenza A: **20**
- Influenza B: **6**
- Influenza A & B: **1**

Calls — This Week

Calls to Influenza Service at Health Links–Info Santé: **30**

Physician Visits — This Week

Visits to sentinel physicians due to ILI: **0.6%**

Vaccine — As of Feb. 21

- Percentage of Manitoba residents immunized with the seasonal influenza vaccine: **25.6**%

Antiviral — This Week

Units of antiviral dispensed from pharmacies: **131**

ER Visits — This Week

Respiratory visits to Emergency Department (ED): **154/day**

Note. * ICU admissions were also included in hospitalizations.
**Laboratory-confirmed influenza cases were reported from the provincial Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS).
Numbers are subject to change. Missed events in the current report due to a delay of submission to MHSAL will be included in later reports when data become available.

Manitoba

Influenza Surveillance Report 2019–2020

Figure 1. Weekly Cases of Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza, Manitoba

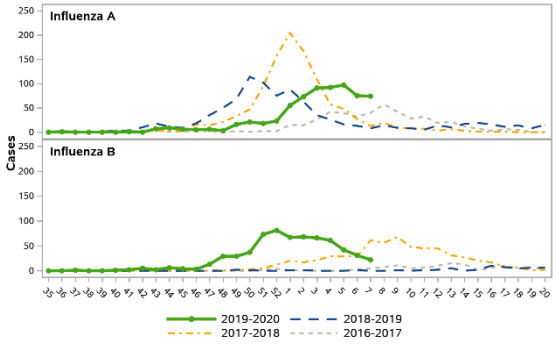

Figure 2. Weekly Influenza and ILI Outbreaks, Manitoba

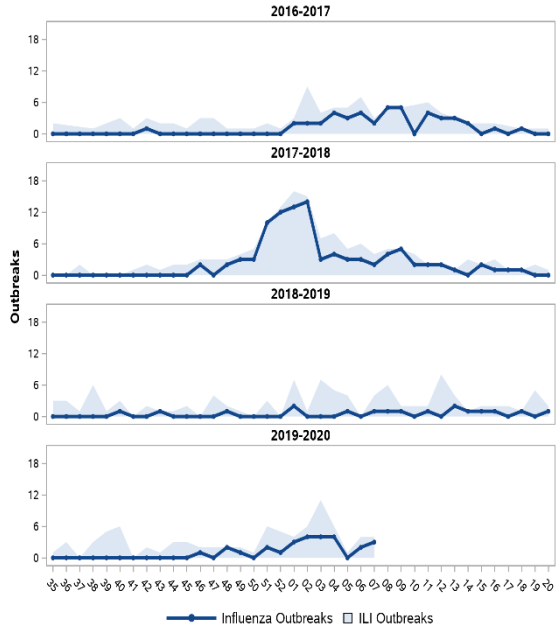

Figure 3. Average Daily Respiratory Visits to Emergency Department and % of Total Visits, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Manitoba

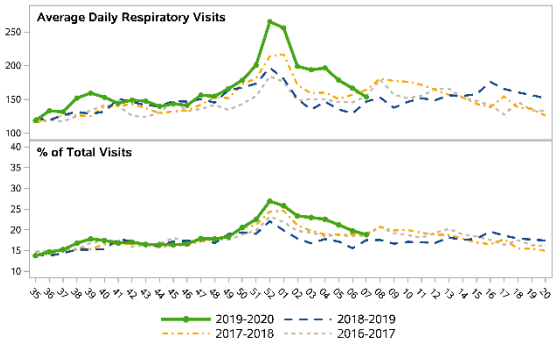

Table 1. Antiviral Resistance of Isolates by Influenza Type and Subtype since September 1, 2019

		Oseltamivir		Zanamivir	
		R*	S**	R*	S**
Canada	A(H3N2)	0	140	0	140
	A(H1N1)	1	163	0	164
	B	0	182	0	182
Manitoba	A(H3N2)	0	6	0	6
	A(H1N1)	0	6	0	6
	B	0	24	0	24

** Resistant **Sensitive*

Table 2. Influenza Strain Characterization reported by National Microbiology Laboratory since September 1, 2019

Strain	Number of viruses	
	Canada	Manitoba
Influenza A (H3N2) A/Kansas/14/2017-like	51	1
Influenza A (H1N1) A/Brisbane/02/2018-like	355	23
Influenza B B/Colorado/06/2017-like	180	17
Influenza B B/Phuket/3073/13-like	2	0

As per the World Health Organization (WHO), all seasonal quadrivalent influenza vaccines for 2019–2020 in the northern hemisphere contain those strains.