

Updated on 2009 December 3

[Abstract]

Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare updated trend information about influenzaA (H1N1) pdm.

[Risk Assessment]

Serious public health impact - These cases fit the case definition of human influenza caused by a new subtype for notification under the IHR (2005).

Unusual or unexpected - Human infection with influenza A(H1N1) pdm has been considered to be unusual.

International disease spread - Several cases had travel history abroad.

Interference with international travel or trade - The event has attracted significant attention from the international community and media.

[Body]

During epidemiological week (EW) 47, the number of the influenza like illness (ILI) cases reported from approximately 5,000 sentinel sites nationwide was 186,117. The trend of ILI during EW 47 compared with the previous week: 169,095 in EW 46 was characterized as increasing.

Based on the reports from prefectural and municipal public health institutes, influenza A(H1N1)pdm dominated by over 99% among the proportion of influenza virus isolation/detection from the ILI cases during from EW 36 (the first week of the 2009/10 season) to EW 48. The report has submitted to WHO FluNet weekly bases (Chronological chart can be obtained at <http://idsc.nih.go.jp/iasr/influ-e.html>).

Since the previous report on 27 November, 4 cases of oseltamivir resistant influenza A(H1N1)pdm were reported in 3 prefectures (Niigata, Oita and Shimane). Out of them, two cases in Niigata prefecture were reported to WPRO on November 30. The remaining cases in Oita and Shimane were associated with the oseltamivir treatment. They were fully recovered. Another case surrounding each case has not been identified.

During the period between November 23 and 29, five clusters of influenza like illness patients have been reported from medical facilities and 1,186 clusters have been reported from day-care facilities. The occurrences of clusters are defined as equal or more than ten clinically diagnosed patients within seven days in the same facilities.

During the period between November 25 and December 1, 721 (seven hundred and twenty one) hospitalized cases due to influenza A(H1N1) pdm have been reported. Among those, 25 cases suffered encephalopathy and 24 cases were put on a ventilator. The total number

of hospitalized cases since July 28 reached 10,487. As of December 1, total of 72 fatal cases have been reported.