

Updated on 2009 October 28

[Abstract]

Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare updated trend information about influenza A (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) 42, the number of the influenza like illness (ILI) cases reported from approximately 5,000 sentinel sites nationwide was 84,976. The trend of ILI during EW 42 compared with the previous week: 61,583 in EW 41 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 EW 39 to EW 43. The report has submitted to WHO FluNet weekly bases (Chronological chart can be obtained at <http://idsc.nih.go.jp/iasr/influ-e.html>).

Other three sporadic cases with oseltamivir-resistant influenza A(H1N1)pdm were reported in Aichi and Kanagawa prefecture since the last report on October 21. All three cases were associated with oseltamivir prophylaxis or oseltamivir treatment. All cases fully recovered.

During the period between October 19 and 25, four cluster of influenza like illness patients have been reported from medical facilities and 376 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 October 21 and 27, 570 hospitalized cases due to influenza A(H1N1) pdm have been reported. Among those, 15 cases suffered encephalopathy and 16 cases were put on a ventilator. The total number of hospitalized cases since July 28 reached 3746. As of October 28, total of 35 fatal cases have been reported.