

Updated on January 14, 2010

[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 new subtype influenza was considered to be unusual.

International disease spread - Several cases had travel history abroad.

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

[Body]

During epidemiological week (EW) 53, the number of the influenza like illness (ILI) cases reported from approximately 5,000 sentinel sites nationwide was 48,128. The trend of ILI during EW 53 compared with the previous week: 94,228 in EW 52 was characterized as decreasing.

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 49 through EW 53. The report has submitted to WHO FluNet weekly (Chronological chart can be obtained at <http://idsc.nih.go.jp/iasr/influ-e.html>).

Other four sporadic cases with oseltamivir-resistant influenza A(H1N1)pdm have been reported in Wakayama, Yamanashi, Yamagata and Hokkaido prefecture since the last report on January 6.

During the period between January 4 and 10, six clusters of influenza like illness patients have been reported from medical facilities and 31 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 January 6 and 12, 285(two hundred and eighty-five) hospitalized cases due to influenza like illness have been reported. Among those, eight H1N1 cases suffered encephalopathy and 23 H1N1 cases were put on a ventilator. The total number of hospitalized cases since July 28 reached 15,615. As of January 12, total of 155 fatal H1N1 cases have been reported.