

Updated on 2009 August 5

[Abstract]

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

[Risk Assessment]

Serious public health impact - Genetic mutations and genetic reassortment among influenzaA (H1N1) pdm viruses are ongoing, resulting in continuous changes in these viruses.

Unusual or unexpected - Human infection with influenza A(H1N1) pdm has been considered to be unusual. The cases did not have history of exposure to swine.

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) 29, the number of the influenza like illness (ILI) cases reported from about 5000 sentinel sites nationwide was 1,042. The trend of ILI during EW 29 compared with the previous week was characterized as increasing.

For the period between July 27 and August 2, three hundred and thirty-five clusters has been reported. By definition, a cluster includes at least one case with laboratory confirmation among two or more ILI patients in the same group such as school or workplace. For the same period, 211 laboratory-confirmed cases and 493 cases with epidemiological link has been reported.

For the period between July 29 and August 4, twenty-eight hospitalized cases due to influenza (H1N1) pdm have been reported. Among those one case suffered encephalopathy. The total number of hospitalized cases since July 28 became 51. As of today, no fatal case has been reported.