

Updated on 2009 September 16

[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) 36, the number of the influenza like illness (ILI) cases reported from approximately 5,000 sentinel sites nationwide was 12,515. The trend of ILI during EW 36 compared with the previous week: 12,007 in EW 35 was characterized as increasing.

As of September 11, based on the reports from prefectural and municipal public health institutes, influenza A(H1N1)pdm dominated by 99% among the proportion of influenza virus isolation/detection from the ILI cases during EW 33 to EW 37. The report has submitted to WHO FluNet weekly bases (Chronological chart can be obtained at <http://idsc.nih.go.jp/iasr/influ-e.html>).

Another sporadic case with oseltamivir-resistant influenza A(H1N1)pdm was reported in Saitama prefecture since the last report on September 9. The case was under five years old. The sample was obtained during oseltamivir-treatment. The case did not receive antiviral prophylaxis. Symptom of the case was mild and the case had fully recovered.

During the period between September 9 and 15, 7,001 clusters of influenza like illness patients have been reported. The occurrences of clusters were defined clinically in the same group such as school or workplace.

During the period between September 9 and 15, 102 hospitalized cases due to influenza A(H1N1) pdm have been reported. Among those, four cases suffered encephalopathy and five cases were put on a ventilator. The total number of hospitalized cases since July 28 became 892. As of September 15, total of 14 fatal cases have been reported.