

Updated on 2009 December 9

[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) 48, the number of the influenza like illness (ILI) cases reported from approximately 5,000 sentinel sites nationwide was 190,801. The trend of ILI during EW 48 compared with the previous week: 186,117 in EW 47 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 49. 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 Osaka prefecture since the last report on December 3. The case was not prescribed oseltamivir before the sample was obtained. The case fully recovered.

During the period between November 30 and December 6, seven clusters of influenza like illness patients have been reported from medical facilities and 1,103 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 December 2 and December 8, 656(six hundred and fifty six) hospitalized cases due to influenza A(H1N1) pdm have been reported. Among those, 22 cases suffered encephalopathy and 31 cases were put on a ventilator. The total number of hospitalized cases since July 28 reached 11,924. As of December 8, total of 107 fatal cases have been reported.