

Updated on January 6, 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) 51, the number of the influenza like illness (ILI) cases reported from approximately 5,000 sentinel sites nationwide was 108,071. The trend of ILI during EW 51 compared with the previous week: 131,972 in EW 50 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 from EW 36 (the first week of the 2009/10 season) to EW 52. 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 Osaka, Kanagawa and Shizuoka prefecture since the last report on December 24.

During the period between December 28 and January 3, six clusters of influenza like illness patients have been reported from medical facilities and 32 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 30 and January 5, 216(two hundred and sixteen) hospitalized cases due to influenza like illness have been reported. Among those, eight H1N1 cases suffered encephalopathy and 12 H1N1 cases were put on a ventilator. The total number of hospitalized cases since July 28 reached 14,930. As of January 5, total of 145 fatal H1N1 cases have been reported.