Low influenza activity in Peel.

Table 1: Indicators of Influenza Activity, Peel, 2017-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Weeks 40 &amp; 41 Activity in Peel</th>
<th>Compared to Weeks 38 &amp; 39</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory-Confirmed Cases</td>
<td>Four new influenza cases reported.</td>
<td>Similar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Outbreaks in Institutions</td>
<td>One new respiratory outbreak reported in weeks 40 and 41 (agent pending). Total influenza outbreaks to date, 2017-2018: 1</td>
<td>Similar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza-like illness (ILI) Emergency Room (ER) Visits</td>
<td>Visits for ILI comprised 3.3% of total ER visits.</td>
<td>Similar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Absenteeism</td>
<td>The average daily student absenteeism in Peel elementary schools due to any illness was 2.4%.</td>
<td>Similar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Year-To-Date Influenza Season Summary, Peel, 2017-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Influenza subtype</th>
<th>2017-2018 Season-to-date: Sep 1, 2017 – Oct 14, 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A (H3)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A (Subtype Unknown)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A and B</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database, extracted by Peel Public Health [17/October/2017]
Table 3: Provincial, National, and Global Influenza Activity Summary

**Provincial**

*Influenza activity for Week 40 was lower than Week 39.*

- Reported cases: 9 (8 influenza A and 1 influenza B) in week 40 (12 in week 39)
- Percent positivity: 0.9% in week 40 (2.2% in week 39)
- Institutional outbreaks: 0 in week 40 (1 in week 39)
- Activity levels in other health units: ‘widespread’ - 0, ‘localized’ - 1, ‘sporadic’ - 5, no activity - 23
- Rhinovirus was the most common circulating non-influenza virus in week 40.


**National**

Influenza activity remains at inter-seasonal levels across the country. However, several indicators are above expected levels compared to previous seasons.

- In weeks 39-40, the majority of influenza detections continued to be A (H3N2). The percentage of laboratory tests positive for influenza is higher for this time of year compared to previous seasons.
- The National Microbiology Laboratory (NML) has characterized 21 influenza viruses [12 A(H3N2), 5 A(H1N1)pdm09 and 4 B viruses]. All influenza A viruses characterized were antigenically similar to the 2017-18 vaccine components. All influenza B viruses were similar to the additional influenza B component of the 2017-18 quadrivalent influenza vaccine.
- The NML has tested 23 influenza viruses for resistance to oseltamivir (all sensitive), and 23 for zanamivir (all sensitive).


**Global**

Influenza activity remained at low levels in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere. Declining levels of influenza activity were reported in the temperate zone of the southern hemisphere and in some countries of South and South East Asia. In Central America and the Caribbean influenza activity continued to be reported in a few countries. Worldwide, influenza A (H3N2) viruses were predominating.

- **South America:** Influenza and RSV levels continue to decline throughout most of the sub-region.
- **Oceania:** Seasonal influenza activity started to decline, with influenza A(H3N2) viruses predominant followed by influenza B.
- **The Caribbean and Central America:** Respiratory illness and influenza activity remained low, however, RSV activity increased in several countries.
- **Southern Asia:** Decreasing levels of influenza activity were reported in India and Bhutan, with influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus predominant.
- **South East Asia:** Influenza activity appeared to decrease with some exceptions (Cambodia and Lao PDR).
- **Western Asia:** Activity continued to increase in Oman, with influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and A(H3N2) viruses co-circulating. Increased detections have been reported in Bahrain.
- **East Asia:** Influenza activity remained low.
- **Western Africa:** Influenza detections continued to be reported, with all seasonal influenza subtypes reported.
- **Eastern Africa:** Influenza detections and ILI activity increased sharply in Réunion Island, with influenza B viruses predominant.
- **Northern Africa:** No influenza virus detections were reported.
- **Europe:** Little to no influenza activity was reported.
- **North America:** Influenza virus activity remained low with detections of predominantly influenza A(H3N2) and B viruses.


If you have questions or comments regarding this report, please contact Communicable Diseases Surveillance, Peel Public Health at 905-791-7800 ext. 2884 or zzg-peelsurveillance@peelregion.ca