In the past week, a total of 11 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 31 general practices in 13 out of 24 health districts. This gives a weekly consultation rate of 9.3 per 100 000 patient population.

The graph compares the consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district over the past week. Wellington had the highest consultation rate (22.9 per 100 000), followed by Canterbury (15.0 per 100 000).

Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness by health district
week ending 08 April 2005

Seven swabs were sent from the sentinel surveillance in the past week. Nine swabs from sentinel surveillance have been received by the ESR virology laboratory. The influenza virus is yet to be identified from these swabs.

One influenza B (yet to be subtyped) from Canterbury was reported for the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) surveillance this week.

The cumulative total of influenza isolates confirmed (sentinel and laboratory-based surveillance) so far this year is 12. Of these, three were influenza A (yet to be subtyped), three were subtyped as A/Fujian/411/2002 (H3N2) - like, one as A/Wellington/1/2004 (H3N2) – like, two as influenza B/Sichuan/379/99 – like and three as Influenza B (yet to be sub-typed).

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