In the past week, a total of 41 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 73 general practices in 21 out of 24 health districts. This gives a weekly consultation rate of 14.1 per 100,000 patient population.

The graph compares the consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district over the past week. Eastern Bay of Plenty had the highest consultation rate (50.9 per 100,000), followed by Hawke’s Bay (33.8 per 100,000).

Figure 1

*Health districts did not participate for the week
Twenty-one swabs were sent from the sentinel surveillance in the past week. Twenty-nine swabs were received by virology laboratories. One influenza A (yet to be sub-typed) was isolated from Canterbury.

Three influenza A (yet to be sub-typed) from Waikato (2) and Tauranga (1) were reported by regional virology laboratories from the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) surveillance.

Figure 2 shows the weekly national consultation rates for 2005 and 2006 seasons, and 2007 so far.

Figure 2


- 2007
- 2006
- 2005
Figure 3 illustrates consultation rates for influenza-like illness mapped by health district for week 20, 2007.

The threshold used to describe the influenza-like activity can be referred in New Zealand Public Health Report 2001, 8 (1): 9-12 "Influenza surveillance and immunisation in New Zealand, 1990-1999"

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