In the past week, a total of 95 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 77 general practices in 24 health districts. This gives a weekly consultation rate of 30.1 per 100,000 patient population.

Figure 1 compares the consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district over the past week. Northland had the highest consultation rate (145.8 per 100,000), followed by Rotorua (120.3 per 100,000).

Figure 1

Thirty-five swabs were sent from the sentinel surveillance in the past week. Forty-five swabs were received by virology laboratories. Of these, 11 influenza viruses were identified, eight influenza A (yet to be sub-typed) and three B (not typed). The distribution by health district is shown in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antigenic Strain</th>
<th>BE</th>
<th>TP</th>
<th>WR</th>
<th>WN</th>
<th>HU</th>
<th>CB</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A (yet to be sub-typed)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B (not typed)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In addition, three influenza A (yet to be sub-typed) were reported this week from the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) surveillance. The distribution by health district is shown in Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antigenic Strain</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>WK</th>
<th>HB</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A (yet to be sub-typed)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2 show the cumulative total of influenza viruses confirmed (sentinel and laboratory-based surveillance) to the end of week 24, 13 June 2008. A total of 61 influenza viruses were identified, 32 influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), 13 A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2) – like, three A H3N2, one A (H1N1), 11 influenza B (yet to be typed), and one B/Florida/4/2006 - lineage.

**Figure 2**

Figure 2: Cumulative laboratory-confirmed isolates by health district to 13 June 2008

Figure 3 shows the weekly national consultation rates for 2006 and 2007 seasons, and 2008 so far. The current rate of influenza is higher than at the same time last year.
Figure 3

Figure 3: Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness in New Zealand, 2006, 2007 and 2008

Figure 4 illustrates consultation rates for influenza-like illness mapped by health district for week 24, 2008.
Consultations for Influenza-like Illness (per 100 000 practice patients)

- No Data
- No Activity (0)
- Baseline (<50)
- Normal (50 - 249)
- High Activity (250 - 399)
- Epidemic (>=400)

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