In the past week, a total of 138 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 81 general practices in 23 of the 24 health districts. This gives a weekly consultation rate of 40.3 per 100,000 patient population.

Figure 1 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 (152.6 per 100,000), followed by Wellington (103.6 per 100,000).

Fifty swabs were sent from the sentinel surveillance in the past week. Fifty-seven swabs were received by virology laboratories. Of these, 20 influenza viruses were identified, 12 influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), three B (not antigenically typed), two A H3N2 (not antigenically sub-typed), two A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2) – like, and one B/Florida/4/2006 lineage. The distribution by health district is shown in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antigenic Strain</th>
<th>WK</th>
<th>RO</th>
<th>RU</th>
<th>MW</th>
<th>WR</th>
<th>HU</th>
<th>NM</th>
<th>CB</th>
<th>OT</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A (yet to be sub-typed)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A H3N2 (not antigenically sub-typed)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2) – like</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B (not antigenically typed)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/Florida/4/2006 lineage</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In addition, 14 influenza viruses were reported this week from the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) surveillance, 12 influenza A (yet to be sub-typed) and two B (not antigenically typed). The distribution by health district is shown in Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antigenic Strain</th>
<th>NW</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>WK</th>
<th>HB</th>
<th>CB</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A (yet to be sub-typed)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B (not antigenically typed)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2 show the cumulative total of influenza viruses confirmed (sentinel and laboratory-based surveillance) to the end of week 25, 20 June 2008. A total of 95 influenza viruses were identified, 52 influenza A (yet to be sub-typed), 20 A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2) – like, four A H3N2 (not antigenically sub-typed), one A H1N1 (not antigenically sub-typed), 15 influenza B (not antigenically typed), and three B/Florida/4/2006 – lineage.

**Figure 2**

*Figure 2: Cumulative laboratory-confirmed isolates by health district to 20 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: 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 25, 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)

Code | Health District
--- | ---
BE | Eastern Bay of Plenty
CA | Central Auckland
CB | Canterbury
GS | Gisborne
HB | Hawkes Bay
HU | Hutt
MW | Manawatu
NL | Northland
NM | Nelson Marlborough
NW | North West Auckland
OT | Otago
RO | Rotorua
RU | Ruapehu
SA | South Auckland
SC | South Canterbury
SO | Southland
TG | Tauranga
TK | Taranaki
TP | Taupo
WC | West Coast
WG | Wanganui
WK | Waikato
WN | Wellington
WR | Wairarapa

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