

VIROLOGY Quarterly report (October to December 2005)

RESPIRATORY VIRUSES

Influenza virus

During October to December 2005, a total of 9 influenza A viruses were reported from laboratory-based surveillance. This is much lower compared with 138 influenza viruses reported during the same period in 2004. Of these, 4 were identified as influenza A (yet to be subtyped), 1 as A/California/7/2004(H3N2) and 4 as A/New Caledonia/20/99.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus, Rhinoviruses and parainfluenza viruses

During October to December 2005, 26 cases of respiratory syncytial virus were reported. This is slightly higher compared with 23 cases of RSV infection during the same period in 2004. Thirty rhinoviruses were reported, which is lower than 41 rhinovirus isolations during the same period in 2004. A total of 26 parainfluenza viruses were reported this year compared to the 49 in 2004, with parainfluenza type 1 (1), type 2 (2) and type 3 (23).

ADENOVIRUSES AND ENTEROVIRUSES

Adenoviruses

During October to December 2005, a total of 110 adenoviruses were reported. This was similar to 119 adenovirus isolations during the same period in 2004. Adenovirus type 4 was the predominant serotype. A total of 88 adenoviruses were serotyped as adenovirus type 1 (13), type 2 (10), type 3 (34), type 4 (26), type 5 (1), type 8 (1), type 37 (1), and type 41 (2).

Enteroviruses

During October to December 2005, a total of 76 enteroviruses were reported. This is lower than the 90 enterovirus isolations during the same period of 2004. Coxsackie A16 was the predominant serotype. A total of 26 enteroviruses were serotyped as Coxsackie B1 (6), Coxsackie B2 (3), Coxsackie B5 (2), Coxsackie A12 (1), Coxsackie A16 (8), Echovirus 11 (1), Echovirus 18 (3), Echovirus 25 (1) and untypable (1).