



Philadelphia Department of Public Health Division of Disease Control

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Health Advisory

Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary – Minimal RSV Activity, Influenza Circulating April 5, 2012

The Division of Disease Control (DDC) of the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) monitors trends in the circulation of common respiratory viruses throughout each year. Since early January, counts of RSV have continually decreased, with percent positivity being below 10% for the last 3 weeks. This marks the end of the RSV season as it relates to the appropriate administration of palivizumab*.

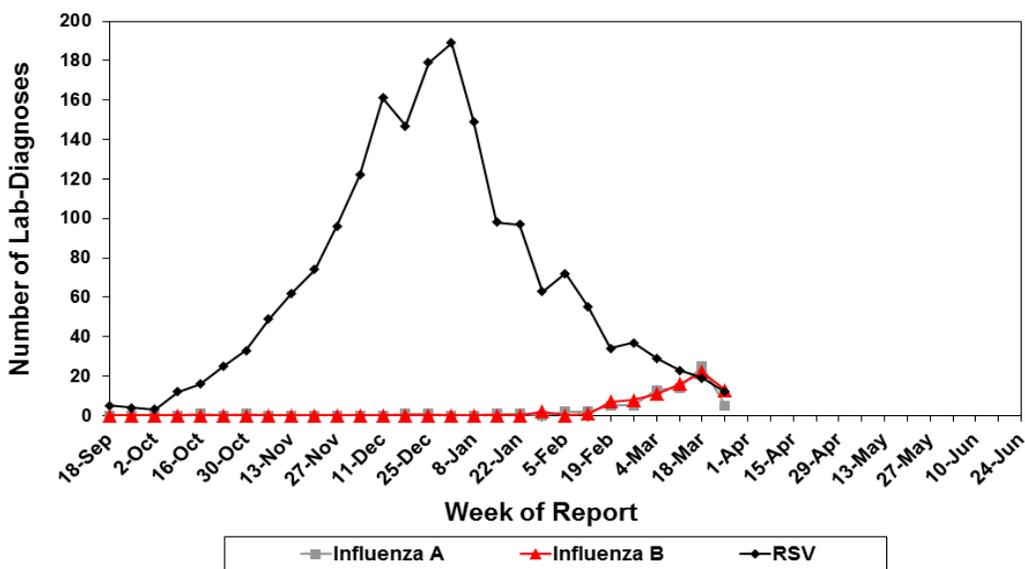
Only within the last several weeks has influenza circulated in our area (figure). During that time, influenza A/H3N2, influenza A/2009H1N1, and influenza B have been identified in nearly equal proportions in samples tested at local clinical laboratories. Despite this recent trend, current influenza activity is far lower this year than in previous seasons (data not shown). Hospitalizations resulting from influenza have followed a similar pattern with recent increases but lower levels than seasons past. Only one influenza-related fatality has been identified and no institutional outbreaks of influenza have been reported. For more information regarding influenza, including weekly surveillance reports, please visit PDPH's Health Information Portal (HIP) at hip.phila.gov.

Rhinoviruses, metapneumoviruses and adenoviruses are also circulating in the area (data not shown) and should also be considered in a clinical differential when evaluating an influenza-like illness.

Healthcare providers are reminded that all institutional outbreaks of respiratory illness or hospitalized and fatal cases of influenza are to be reported to DDC. Reporting forms are posted on the HIP and can be faxed to DDC at 215-238-6947 or called to 215-685-6740.

Weekly Laboratory-Based Surveillance for Influenza and RSV: Philadelphia, 2011-2012 Season

Based on data from select local hospital virology laboratories



*According to CDC, the end of RSV season is defined as the first week of two consecutive weeks when the mean percent positive of all lab confirmed tests are less than 10%