

Laboratory-based Virology Weekly Report

Week 23 ending 13 June, 2021

The laboratory-based surveillance for influenza and common respiratory viruses is carried out all-year-around by the NZ virus laboratory network consisting of the WHO National Influenza Centre (NIC) at ESR and six hospital laboratories in Auckland (2), Waikato, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. This laboratory network tests specimens ordered by clinicians for hospital inpatients and outpatients during normal clinical practice (serving ~70% of the NZ population). Sample collection is based on clinician's judgement, rather than systematic sampling approach. In addition, this laboratory network also conducts testing for public health surveillance including SARI, ILI and WellKiwis (i.e. SHIVERS) cohort surveillance. The below Tables and Figure show the weekly influenza and common non-influenza viruses reported from the laboratory network in 2021.

Table 1. Non-influenza respiratory viruses reported, since 1 January 2021

<i>Non-influenza respiratory viruses</i>	Week 23	Total
No. of positive specimens	376	2939
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	105	175
Parainfluenza 1 (PIV1)	0	180
Parainfluenza 2 (PIV2)	0	2
Parainfluenza 3 (PIV3)	0	0
Rhinovirus (RV)	199	2010
Adenovirus (AdV)	21	210
Human metapneumovirus (hMPV)	24	99
Enterovirus	27	255
SARS-CoV-2	0	8

Table 2. Influenza respiratory viruses reported, since 1 January 2021

<i>Influenza viruses</i>	Week 23	Total
No. of positive specimens	0	2
Influenza A	0	0
A (not subtyped)	0	0
A(H1N1)pdm09	0	0
A(H1N1)pdm09 by PCR	0	0
A/Victoria/2570/2019 (H1N1)pdm09 - like	0	0
A(H3N2)	0	0
A(H3N2) by PCR	0	0
A/Hong Kong/2671/2019 (H3N2)-like	0	0
Influenza B	0	2
B (lineage not determined)	0	0
B/Yamagata lineage	0	0
B/Yamagata lineage by PCR	0	0
B/Phuket/3073/2013 - like	0	0
B/Victoria lineage	0	2
B/Victoria lineage by PCR	0	2
B/Washington/02/2019-like	0	0

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Figure 1. Respiratory viruses reported, since 1 January 2021, by week.

