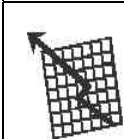


|                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                           |                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  | <b>Ontario<br/>Influenza<br/>Bulletin</b> | <b>Ministry of Health and<br/>Long-Term Care</b>                                  |
|  |  |                                           | <b>Public Health Branch</b><br><br><i>Volume 5, Issue 4<br/>November 23, 2001</i> |

**Week #46: Week Ending November 17, 2001**

**Influenza Activity in Ontario**

There was no influenza activity reported in the province for the week ending November 17, 2001. The following upper respiratory isolates were reported: 7 respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), 11 parainfluenza type 1 (PIV1), 4 parainfluenza type 2 (PIV2), 2 parainfluenza type 4 (PIV4), 1 other/PIV case, and 2 adenovirus. (Tables 1 and 2).

**Table 1. Comparison of Influenza Activity for the 2000-01 and 2001-02 Influenza Surveillance Seasons**

| Indicator                                        | 2000-01 Season                | 2001-02 Season                |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                                  | Week Ending November 18, 2000 | Week Ending November 17, 2001 |
|                                                  | Season-to-date                | Season-to-date                |
| <b>*Laboratory Surveillance (isolates) Total</b> | <b>5</b>                      | <b>9</b>                      |
| Influenza A                                      | 5                             | 9                             |
| Influenza B                                      | 0                             | 0                             |
| <b>Institutional Outbreaks</b>                   | <b>0</b>                      | <b>1</b>                      |
| Other Respiratory Viruses                        |                               |                               |
| RSV                                              | 70                            | 18                            |
| PIV1                                             | 3                             | 36                            |
| PIV2                                             | 2                             | 24                            |
| PIV3                                             | 25                            | 1                             |
| PIV4                                             | 4                             | 4                             |
| Other PIVs                                       | 0                             | 1                             |
| Adenoviruses                                     | 8                             | 15                            |

\*Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control, Health Canada

**Table 2. Season-to-date Influenza Cases by Health Unit as Reported Through RDIS\*, 2001-2002**

| Health Unit              | Number of Lab-Confirmed Influenza Cases |        |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------|
|                          | Type A                                  | Type B |
| Kingston                 | 2                                       | 0      |
| Leeds, Grenville, Lanark | 3                                       | 0      |

\*Reportable Disease Information System

Note: The four new cases of Influenza A from Week 45 have not been reported by the health unit(s) to-date.

**Table 3. Season-to-date Institutional Influenza Outbreaks by Health Unit in Ontario, 2001-2002**

| Health Unit              | Type of Institution     | # of Outbreaks | Organism Identified | RAR% | SAR % | Complications                           |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------|------|-------|-----------------------------------------|
| Leeds, Grenville, Lanark | Long-Term Care Facility | 1              | Influenza A         | 21.6 | 10.8  | 2 resident deaths have occurred to-date |

RAR: Resident Attack Rate (# of residents ill/total number of residents)

SAR: Staff Attack Rate (# of staff ill/total number of staff)

## Federal FluWatch Sentinel Physician Surveillance Activity in Ontario

The rate of influenza-like illness (ILI) reported through the Federal FluWatch system was 13 per 1,000 patients seen.

### Vaccine and Strain Characterization

The influenza vaccine contains the following strains: A/Panama/2007/99 (H3N2)-like, A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1)-like, and B/Sichuan/379/99-like strain. The influenza virus identified below are incorporated in the vaccine (Table 4).

**Table 4. Season-to-date Strain Identification and Characterization In Canada\*, 2001-2002**

| Strain Characterization           | # of Strains Identified-to-date in Ontario | # of Strains Identified-to-date in Canada |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| A/Panama/2007/99(H3N2)-like       | 2                                          | 3                                         |
| A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1)-like | 0                                          | 0                                         |
| B/Sichuan/379/99-like             | 0                                          | 0                                         |

\* Respiratory Viruses Section, National Microbiology Laboratory (NML), PPHB, Health Canada

### Laboratory Confirmations and Influenza Activity in the Rest of Canada

During the week ending November 10 (week 45), 44 regions reported no influenza activity and 5 regions reported sporadic activity (4 regions did not report, see map). During the same period, sentinel physicians reported 18 cases of influenza-like illness (ILI) per 1000 patient visits and the Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention & Control (CIDPC) received 669 reports of laboratory tests for influenza: four were positive for influenza A (see table). Since the beginning of the 2001-2002 season, there has been 1 reported outbreak (week 42) at long term care facility.

Source: Health Canada, FluWatch: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pphb-dgspsp/fluwatch/index.html>

### Influenza Activity in the United States

During week 45 (November 4-10, 2001), two of 414 respiratory specimens tested by WHO and NREVSS laboratories were positive for influenza. The overall proportion of patient visits to sentinel physicians for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 1.2%, which is less than the national baseline of 1.9%. The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was 6.7%, which is below the epidemic threshold of 7.2% for week 45. Twenty-two state and territorial health departments reported sporadic influenza activity and 26 reported no influenza activity.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/flu/weekly.htm>>

### Influenza Activity in the World

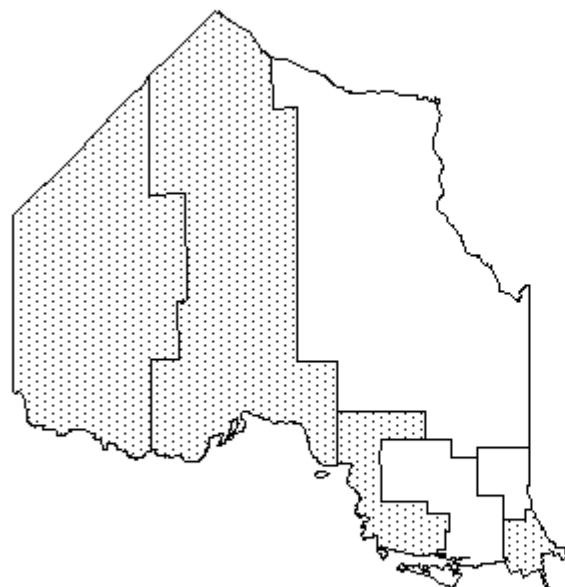
During week 45 (November 4-10 2001), Influenza remained below baseline levels. Influenza A, A(H1N1), A(H3N2) and B viruses were isolated or identified by antigen detection mainly from sporadic cases. Influenza activity between 1 October and 10 November 2001: During the first week of October, outbreaks of influenza were reported in Australia, Canada and the Philippines. In other countries that reported, influenza activity has remained below baseline levels. Influenza A non-subtyped, A(H1N1), A(H3N2) and B viruses were identified by antigen detection or isolation.

Source: WHO, Communicable Disease Surveillance and Response: <<http://www.who.int/emc/diseases/flu/country.html>>

# Influenza Activity Level by Health Unit Week Ending November 17, 2001

Northern Ontario

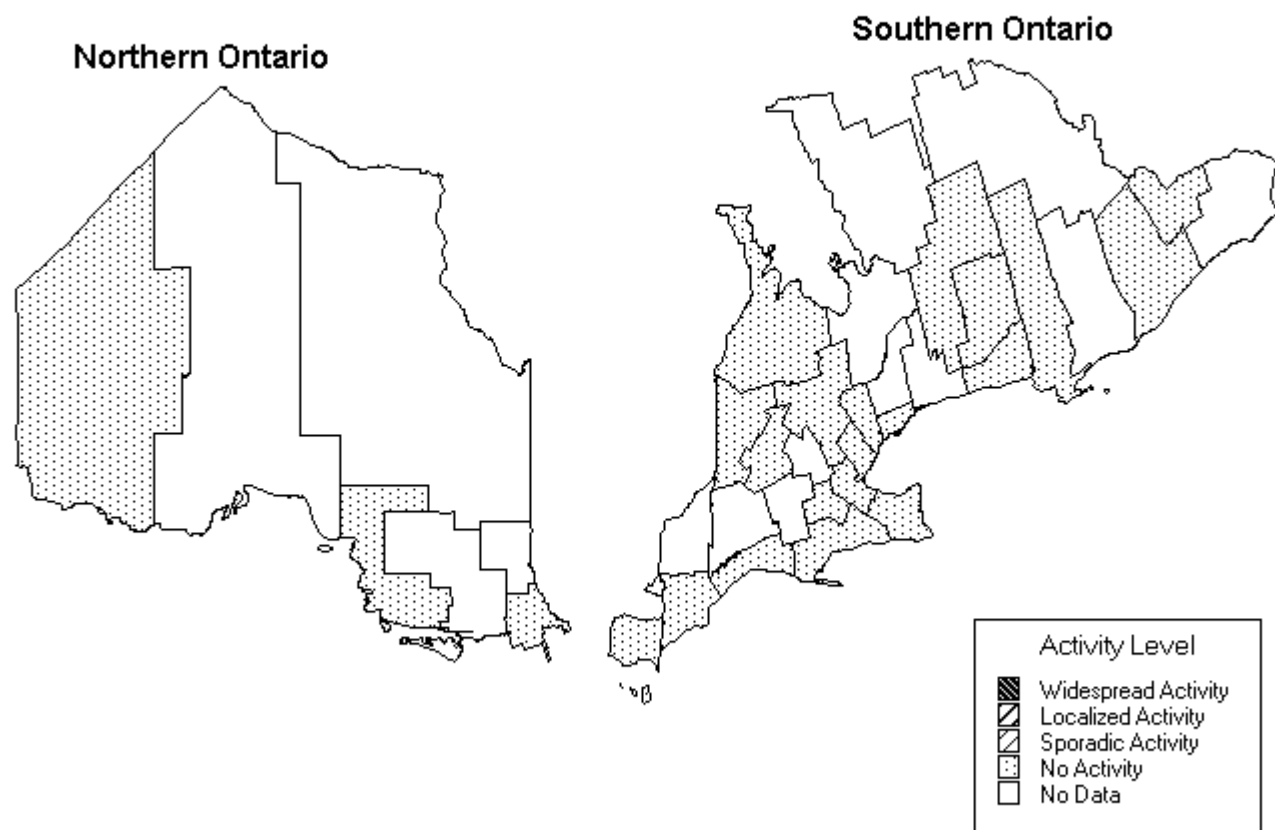
Southern Ontario



## Activity Level

- Widespread Activity
- Localized Activity
- Sporadic Activity
- No Activity
- No Data

## Influenza Activity Level by Health Unit Week Ending November 10, 2001



## Influenza Activity Level by Health Unit Week Ending November 3, 2001

