

Laboratory-based Virology Weekly Report

Week 21 ending 30 May, 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 21	Total
No. of positive specimens	199	2277
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	15	34
Parainfluenza 1 (PIV1)	2	172
Parainfluenza 2 (PIV2)	0	2
Parainfluenza 3 (PIV3)	0	0
Rhinovirus (RV)	149	1625
Adenovirus (AdV)	13	167
Human metapneumovirus (hMPV)	10	60
Enterovirus	9	210
SARS-CoV-2	1	7

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

<i>Influenza viruses</i>	Week 21	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	0
B (lineage not determined)	0	1
B/Yamagata lineage	0	0
B/Yamagata lineage by PCR	0	0
B/Phuket/3073/2013 - like	0	0
B/Victoria lineage	0	1
B/Victoria lineage by PCR	0	1
B/Washington/02/2019-like	0	0

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

