WEEK ENDING 12TH MAY 2019

KEY POINTS

INFLUENZA AND INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESSES (ILI)

Summary: Influenza activity was above inter-seasonal levels this week.

- ILI activity at sentinel GPs and EDs remained above levels usually seen at this time of year.
- PathWest influenza detections and test percent positivity was also above levels usually seen at this time of year.
- Influenza A/H3N2 comprised the largest proportion of influenza detections at Pathwest this week (88%) followed by influenza B (9%), and influenza A/H1N1 (3%).
- Overall non-influenza activity remained steady this week.

GASTROENTERITIS

- The number of gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel GPs and EDs is in the mid range of values normally reported at this time of year.
- PathWest laboratory detections of norovirus and rotavirus remain at low levels.

OTHER VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES

- Shingles and chickenpox: Shingles presentations at sentinel EDs were above baseline levels this week.
- Measles: No measles cases confirmed this week.
- Mumps: One mumps case notified this week.
- Rubella: No rubella cases notified this week.
- Invasive meningococcal disease (IMD): One meningococcal C case notified this week.
The number of routine PathWest influenza detections increased this week. Six of the nine samples (66%) submitted for influenza testing by sentinel GPs tested positive.

The rate of ILI presentations to WA ASPREN sentinel GPs remains in the higher range of values typically reported at this time of the year.
The following is a summary of current Emergency Department sentinel surveillance (EDSS) data for respiratory viral presentations.

Respiratory presentations to sentinel EDs increased this week, whilst admissions decreased slightly.

The number of respiratory viral presentations to sentinel EDs is now in the higher range of values normally reported at this time of year.
The number of influenza hospitalisations have been higher than expected during the inter-seasonal period, particularly in adults.

The graph is a summary of influenza notifications received by the DoH who were recorded as having a hospital admission to the end of the current reporting week, for which cases had a specimen collection date between 06/05/2019 and 12/05/2019. Paediatric notifications were defined as individuals less than 18 years of age.

The number of influenza notifications reported to the Department of Health remains above inter-seasonal levels this week. The graph is a summary of all influenza notifications received by the DoH, Western Australia to the end of the current reporting week, for which cases had date of symptom onset or specimen collection between 06/05/2019 and 12/05/2019. The seasonal threshold defines a value above which may indicate epidemic seasonal influenza activity. The threshold value is calculated based on analysis of seasonal influenza data from the past four years.
The percentage of specimens positive for influenza virus at PathWest remains above levels typically reported at this time of year. Of 336 specimens, 69 (21%) tested positive in the past week.

The graph is a summary of all WA samples reported by PathWest as of Wednesday 15th of May 2019, excluding samples referred by other private laboratories for influenza subtyping.

Sixty nine samples were subtyped by PathWest during this reporting week; 2 (3%) influenza A/H1N1; 61 (88%) influenza A/H3N2; and 6 (9%) influenza B.

The graph is a summary of all WA samples positive for influenza reported at PathWest as of Wednesday 15th of May 2019, excluding samples referred by other private laboratories for influenza subtyping.
Overall non-influenza activity remained steady this week.
The graph is a summary of all WA samples positive for a common respiratory virus other than influenza reported at PathWest as of Wednesday 15th of May 2019.

Non-Influenza Respiratory Viruses, 2018-2019

Overall non-influenza activity remained steady this week.
The graph is a summary of all WA samples positive for a common respiratory virus other than influenza reported at PathWest as of Wednesday 15th of May 2019.

Gastroenteritis
Australian Sentinel Practices Research Network - GP surveillance
Rate of gastroenteritis per 1000 consultations, 2015-2019

The number of gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel GPs is in the mid-range of values normally reported at this time of year.
The following is a summary of current Emergency Department Sentinel Surveillance (EDSS) data for gastroenteritis presentations. Baseline levels for gastroenteritis presentations and admissions were calculated using the mean of weekly EDSS data from week 1, 2015 to week 52, 2018.
Gastroenteritis presentations and admissions to sentinel EDs remained around baseline level this week.

The number of gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel EDs is now in the mid-range of values normally reported at this time of year.
Shingles and chickenpox activity reported by WA ASPREN GPs this week was low. Baseline levels for chickenpox and shingles presentations to WA ASPREN GPs per thousand consultations were calculated using the mean of weekly WA ASPREN data from week 1, 2015 to week 52, 2018.

The following is a summary of current Emergency Department sentinel surveillance (EDSS) data for varicella-zoster virus presentations.

Shingles presentations at sentinel EDs were above baseline levels this week. Baseline levels for varicella-zoster virus presentations were calculated using the mean of weekly EDIS data from week 1, 2015 to week 52, 2018.