KEY POINTS

INFLUENZA AND INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESSES (ILI)

**Summary:** Indicators of influenza activity decreased this week following sharp increases since early May, but remain well above levels usually reported at the peak of the influenza season in WA.

- ILI activity at sentinel GPs and EDs remains well above levels normally reported during influenza season.
- PathWest influenza detections and test percent positivity continue to be above levels usually seen at this time of year.
- Influenza A/H3N2 comprised the largest proportion of influenza detections at Pathwest this week (52%) followed by influenza A/not subtyped* (31%), and influenza B (17%).
- Overall non-influenza activity decreased this week, mostly due to a decrease in RSV detections.

GASTROENTERITIS

- The number of gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel EDs is in the higher 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:** Chickenpox and shingles activity at sentinel EDs was 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 serogroup B case notified this week.

*these specimens have not been tested for subtype
The number of routine PathWest influenza detections continued to decline this week. Six of the 14 samples (43%) submitted for influenza testing by sentinel GPs tested positive.

The rate of ILI presentations remains above levels usually reported during this time of year.
The following is a summary of current Emergency Department sentinel surveillance (EDSS) data for respiratory viral presentations.

Respiratory presentations to sentinel EDs remain high.

The number of respiratory viral presentations to sentinel EDs remains well above levels normally reported during influenza season.

This graph is a summary of presentations at Emergency Department sentinel surveillance (EDSS) sites. This data may differ from hospital attendance and admission data prepared by the Information and Performance Governance Unit using different ICD codes.
The number of influenza hospitalisations declined again this week, following previous early high activity this season. 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 24/06/2019 and 30/06/2019. Paediatric notifications were defined as individuals less than 18 years of age.

Influenza notifications in Western Australia by week, 2015 to 2019

Influenza notifications reported to the Department of Health decreased this week, but remain much higher than peaks of previous seasons. 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 17/06/2019 and 23/06/2019. 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 901 specimens, 345 (38%) tested positive in the past week.

The graph is a summary of all WA samples reported by PathWest as of Wednesday 03rd of July 2019, excluding samples referred by other private laboratories for influenza subtyping.

Three hundred and forty five samples were subtyped by PathWest during this reporting week; 180 (52%) influenza A/H3N2; 106 (31%) influenza A/not subtyped*; 58 (17%) influenza B; and 1 (<1%) mixed infection.

The graph is a summary of all WA samples positive for influenza reported at PathWest as of Wednesday 03rd of July 2019, excluding samples referred by other private laboratories for influenza subtyping.

*these specimens have not been tested for subtype.
Overall non-influenza activity fell again this week, mostly due to a decrease in RSV detections. Parainfluenza detections have increased in recent weeks. The graph is a summary of all WA samples positive for a common respiratory virus other than influenza reported at PathWest as of Wednesday 03rd of July 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 EDIS data from week 1, 2015 to week 52, 2018.

Gastroenteritis ED Presentations

![Graph showing the number of gastroenteritis presentations and admissions to sentinel EDs remains around baseline levels this week.]

Gastroenteritis presentations and admissions to sentinel EDs remains around baseline levels this week.

ED Gastroenteritis Presentations 2015-2019

![Graph showing the number of gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel EDs is now in the mid-range of values normally reported at this time of year.]

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 was below baseline this week.
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.

**Varicella-Zoster Virus ED Presentations**

Chickenpox and 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.