

Influenza monthly update

Source of data: FluNet and EMFLU

Epidemiological week: 18-22/2019

In the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region, influenza activity continues to increase in the month of May in many countries reporting data to FluNet and EMFLU namely, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and United Arab Emirates.

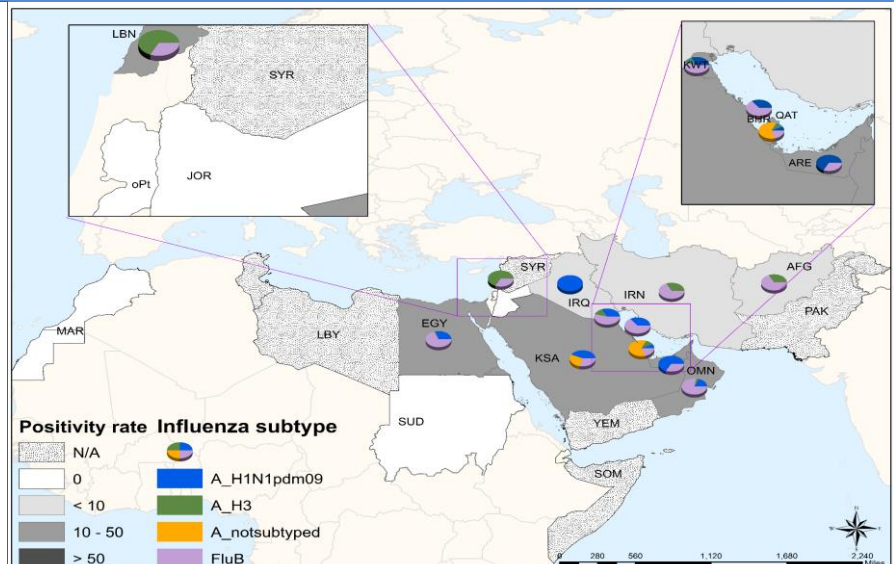
In **May 2019**, Proportion of tested cases for influenza in EMR is 85.8% out of 7,123 enrolled cases, 16.6% of the tested cases is positive and 83.4% is negative.

Cumulative numbers of positive Influenza specimens by type/subtype reported to EMR, May 2019

- In **May 2019**, no new cases of human influenza A(H5N1) were reported in Egypt.
- In the northern Africa influenza transmission zone, Egypt continued reporting moderate influenza activity with all seasonal subtypes co-circulating. Morocco and Tunisia reported no activity.
- In the western Asia influenza transmission zone, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait continued reporting co-circulation of influenza types A and B with influenza B virus predominating in Qatar. Jordan, Iraq, reported sporadic circulation of A(H1N1)pdm09 while Lebanon and oPt reported circulation of Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and A(H3N2) viruses. Syria and Sudan reported no activity.
- In southern Asia transmission zone, influenza activity continued to decrease with all seasonal influenza subtypes co-circulating in Afghanistan and Iran (Islamic Republic of); Pakistan reported no activity.

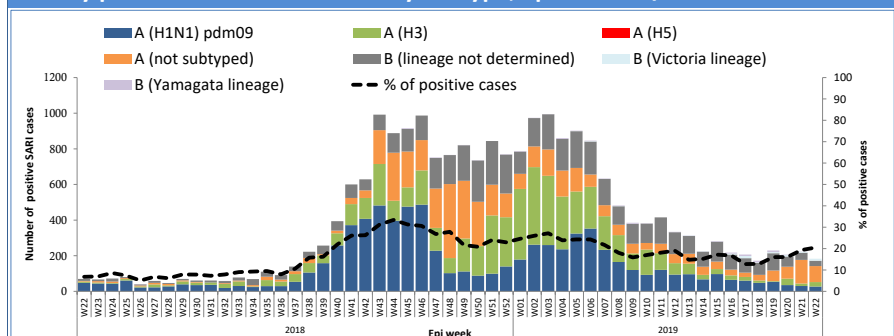
Source of transmission zones:

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/transmission_zones/en/



Disclaimer: The representation of material on the maps contained herein does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authority of frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represents approximate border lines for which there may not be full agreement.

Weekly positive cases of influenza by subtype, Epi week 22/2018–2019



Circulating influenza viruses in the EMR by subtype, May 2019

- During **May 2019**, national influenza centres and influenza laboratories in the Region tested a total of 6,112 specimens for influenza viruses of which 1016 tested positive (16.6%).
- The average percentage of positivity rates is 16%, with highest positivity rate recorded in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.
- Of the viruses tested; 667 (65%) were influenza A viruses, including 194 (19%) influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus, 91 (9%) were influenza A(H3) virus and 382 (38%) were influenza A(not subtyped) virus. Influenza B (Lineage Not determined) virus accounted for 349 (29%).

