

INFLUENZA ACTIVITY IN NEW BRUNSWICK

October 8, 2006 to October 14, 2006 (week 41)

1. Reports of influenza-like illness (ILI) from New Brunswick physicians for the National Flu-Watch Program (20 physicians recruited this year report number of patients with ILI symptoms over total number of patients seen on one day each week):

12 physicians reported 3 cases of ILI of the 261 patients seen for any reason during this reporting period

2. Report of New Brunswick Influenza Virus Surveillance Program (specimens are submitted by recruited sentinel physicians, Emergency Rooms, nursing homes and some community physicians). All specimens are tested by PCR, which is used as a rapid detection method. All PCR positive cases are considered probable and are confirmed by viral culture and/or different PCR test (Table 1). Confirmed influenza cases are reported for the week when the laboratory confirmation is received (Table 2):

Table 1 . Total number of probable influenza cases (by PCR testing)

Region*	Reporting period: 08/10/06-14/10/06	Cumulative: 01/10/06-14/10/06
	Influenza PCR positive	Influenza PCR positive
Region 1	0	0
Region 2	0	0
Region 3	0	0
Region 4	0	0
Region 5	0	0
Region 6	0	0
Region 7	0	0
Total NB	0	0

*For a map of New Brunswick's health regions, consult <http://www.gnb.ca/0051/pdf/LatestRHAmmap.pdf>

Table 2. Total number of laboratory confirmed influenza cases (by PCR/viral culture)

Region*	Reporting period: 08/10/06-14/10/06		Cumulative: 01/10/06-14/10/06	
	Influenza A	Influenza B	Influenza A	Influenza B
Region 1	0	0	0	0
Region 2	0	0	0	0
Region 3	0	0	0	0
Region 4	0	0	0	0
Region 5	0	0	0	0
Region 6	0	0	0	0
Region 7	0	0	0	0
Total NB	0	0	0	0

*For a map of New Brunswick's health regions, consult <http://www.gnb.ca/0051/pdf/LatestRHAmmap.pdf>

3. Surveillance of Influenza-like-Illness (ILI) cases in nursing homes and reports of school absenteeism in New Brunswick:

Region	Reports of ILI in nursing homes		Schools reporting >10% absenteeism*
	# of n. homes reporting ILI	Total # of ILI cases	
Region 1	0 out of 13	0	0 out of 70
Region 2	0 out of 13	0	0 out of 80
Region 3	0 out of 14	0	0 out of 81
Region 4	0 out of 6	0	0 out of 23
Region 5	0 out of 2	0	0 out of 18
Region 6	0 out of 9	0	0 out of 36
Region 7	0 out of 4	0	0 out of 24
Total NB	0 out of 61	0	0 out of 332

* greater than 10% absenteeism on any day most likely due to ILI

4. National Flu Watch Program - Additional information on influenza activity in Canada and around the world is available on the Public Health Agency of Canada's web site at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/index.html>

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