

Influenza monthly update

Source of data: FluNet and EMFLU

Epidemiological week: 36-39/2019

In the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region, influenza activity continues to decrease in the month of **September** 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.

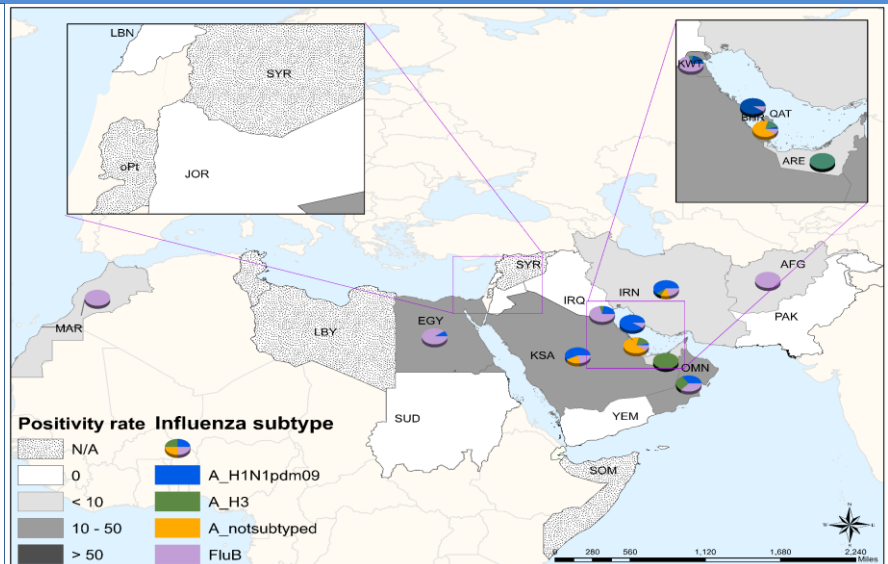
In **September 2019**, Proportion of tested cases for influenza in EMR is 93.5% out of 5,974 enrolled cases, 24.7% of the tested cases is positive and 75.3% is negative.

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

- In **September 2019**, no new cases of human influenza A(H5N1) were reported in Egypt.
- In the northern Africa influenza transmission zone, Egypt continued reporting low influenza activity with influenza B viruses being predominated while Morocco reported sporadic influenza B viruses detection.
- In the western Asia influenza transmission zone, influenza detections were low across reporting countries. Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait continued reporting co-circulation of influenza types A and B while Bahrain reported circulation of only influenza A(H1N1)pdm. Iraq, Jordan, oPt reported no activity.
- In southern Asia transmission zone, Iran reported co-circulation of influenza types A and B while Afghanistan, and Pakistan reported sporadic influenza B detection.

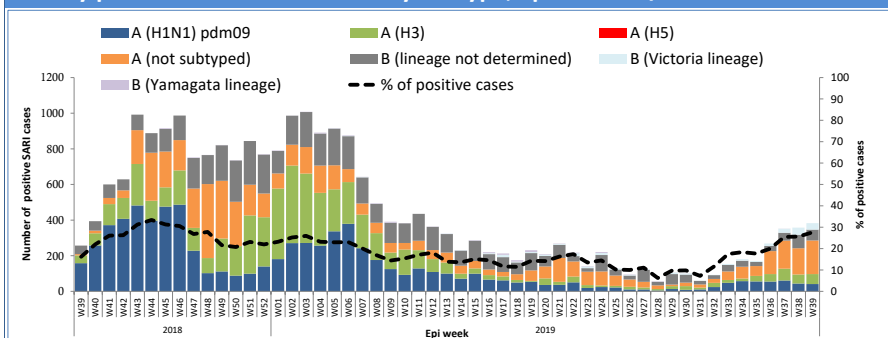
Source of transmission zones:

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 39/2018–2019



Circulating influenza viruses in the EMR by subtype, September 2019

- During **September 2019**, national influenza centres and influenza laboratories in the Region tested a total of 5,587 specimens for influenza viruses of which 1,381 tested positive (24.7%).
- The average percentage of positivity rates is 24.7%, with highest positivity rate recorded in Kuwait and Oman.
- Of the viruses tested; 1039 (77%) were influenza A viruses, including 201 (15%) influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus, 215 (16%) were influenza A(H3) virus and 623 (46%) were influenza A(not subtyped) virus. Influenza B (Lineage Not determined) virus accounted for 210 (15%).

