

## Influenza monthly update

Source of data: FluNet and EMFLU

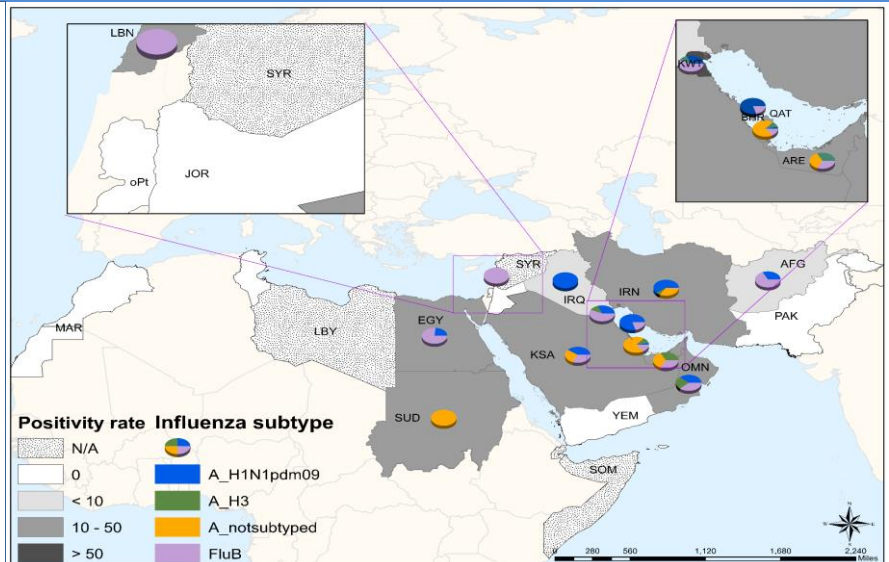
Epidemiological week: 40-43/2019

In the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region, influenza activity continues to decrease in the month of **October** 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 **October 2019**, Proportion of tested cases for influenza in EMR is 96.2% out of 9,148 enrolled cases, 32.5% of the tested cases is positive and 67.5% is negative.

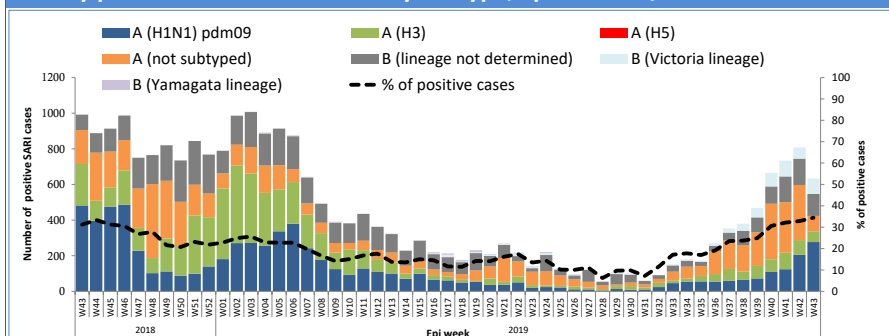
### Cumulative numbers of positive Influenza specimens by type/subtype reported to EMR , October 2019

- In **October 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 and Tunisia reported no activity.
- In the western Asia influenza transmission zone, influenza detections were increased across reporting countries. Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait reported co-circulation of influenza types A and B with influenza B predominately detected in Kuwait while Bahrain reported co circulation of A(H1N1)pdm and B. Jordan and oPt reported no activity.
- In southern Asia transmission zone, Iran reported co-circulation of influenza types A and B with influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 predominately detected while Afghanistan reported sporadic influenza B detection.



*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 43/2018–2019



### Source of transmission zones:

[http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/transmission\\_zones/en/](http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/transmission_zones/en/)

### Circulating influenza viruses in the EMR by subtype, October 2019

- During **October 2019**, national influenza centres and influenza laboratories in the Region tested a total of 8,803 specimens for influenza viruses of which 2,857 tested positive (32.5%).
- The average percentage of positivity rates is 32.5%, with highest positivity rate recorded in Kuwait, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.
- Of the viruses tested; 2013 (71%) were influenza A viruses, including 715 (25%) influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus, 307 (11%) were influenza A(H3) virus and 991 (35%) were influenza A(not subtyped) virus. Influenza B (Lineage Not determined) virus accounted for 513 (18%) and Influenza B (Victoria lineage) virus accounted for 311 (11%).

