



Epidemiological Surveillance of Respiratory Infections

Weekly overview

Week 22/2023 (29/5/2023 – 4/6/2023)

Influenza-like Illness (ILI)

- an increase was observed in the community compared to the previous week

SARS-CoV2 virus - COVID-19 infection

- test positivity showed a decrease compared to the previous week
- the number of COVID-19 admissions (486) showed a decrease compared to the previous week and a 21% decrease compared to the average weekly number of new admissions during the previous 4 weeks
- the number of new intubations (15) showed an increase compared to the previous week, while it is equal to the average weekly number of new intubations during the previous 4 weeks
- the cumulative number of intubated patients with COVID-19 infection is 37
- 38 deaths were reported (median age: 86,5 years, range: 63-97 years)
- during the last weeks all sequenced samples were classified as Omicron sub-variants BA.2 and BA.5, with BA.2 being the dominant variant from week 9 onwards
- in week 19 the most frequent BA.2 sub-variants were XBB.1.5 (83%) followed by XBB.1.16 (14%)
- viral load surveillance in municipal wastewater showed a decrease in SARS-CoV-2 virus circulation in 5 out of 6 areas participating in the network

Influenza virus

- the percentage of sentinel primary care specimens from patients presenting with ILI that tested positive for an influenza virus remains low
- no severe cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza admitted to ICU or deaths from laboratory-confirmed influenza were recorded in week 22/2023
- from week 40/2022 to week 22/2023, 68 people with influenza were hospitalized in ICU and 26 deaths were reported
- during the same period, 370 samples positive for influenza viruses (sentinel samples and hospital samples) were detected in the two Influenza Reference Centers, of which 289 (78%) were type A and 81 (22%) were type B
- of the 287 type A viruses subtyped, 258 (90%) were classified as subtype A(H3N2) and 29 (10%) as subtype A(H1N1)pdm09
- during the last weeks, an excess of type B is recorded

Respiratory syncytial virus – RSV

- all tested samples were RSV negative