

Epidemiological Surveillance of Respiratory Infections Weekly overview Week 25/2023 (19/6/2023 – 25/6/2023)

Influenza-like Illness (ILI)

• ILI rate remained low in the community

SARS-CoV2 virus - COVID-19 infection

- test positivity showed a small increase compared to the previous week
- the number of COVID-19 admissions (N=211) showed a decrease compared to the previous week and a 50% decrease compared to the average weekly number of new admissions during the previous 4 weeks
- the number of new intubations (N=5) remained stable, while it showed a 38% decrease compared to the average weekly number of new intubations during the previous 4 weeks
- the cumulative number of intubated patients with COVID-19 infection is 27
- 17 deaths were reported (median age: 84 years, range: 74-100 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 22 the most frequent BA.2 sub-variants were XBB.1.5 (84%) followed by XBB.1.16 (14%)
- viral load surveillance in municipal wastewater showed a decrease in SARS-CoV-2
 virus circulation in 9 out of 10 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 below 10% (sentinel)
- no severe cases of laboratory- confirmed influenza admitted to ICU or deaths from laboratory-confirmed influenza were recorded in week 25/2023
- from week 40/2022 to week 25/2023, 68 people with influenza were hospitalized in ICU and 26 deaths were reported
- during the same period, 374 samples positive for influenza viruses (sentinel samples and hospital samples) were detected in the two Influenza Reference Centers, of which 290 (77,5%) were type A and 84 (22,5%) were type B
- of the 288 type A viruses subtyped, 258 (90%) were classified as subtype A(H3N2) and 30 (10%) as subtype A(H1N1)pdm09
- during the last weeks, type B is the prevailing type

Respiratory syncytial virus – RSV

all tested samples were RSV negative