

ECDC DAILY UPDATE

Pandemic (H1N1) 2009

Update 05 November 2009,
09:00 hours CEST

Main developments in past 24 hours

- Scientific advance on background rates for adverse events following immunizations published;
- Update on events in Ukraine included;
- Norway relaxes prescription requirements for antivirals;
- Total of 352 fatal cases in Europe and EFTA countries and 5 952 in the rest of the world have been reported up to date.

This report is based on official information provided by the national public health websites or through other official communication channels. An update on the number of confirmed fatal cases is presented in Table 2 - as of 04 November 2009 -16:00 hours CEST, for the world, and 05 November 2009 - 09:00 hours CEST, for Europe.

Epidemiologic update

All 27 EU and 4 EFTA countries are reporting cases of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza. Since April 2009, a total 352 deaths have been reported; the information is available in Table 2.

The latest available updates as of November 04, 2009, at 16:00, on new and on confirmed fatal pandemic A(H1N1) cases outside the EU/EFTA area by country, are also presented in Table 2.

The latest available updates on hospital admissions per Member State are presented in Table 1.

Scientific Advance

An international group including WHO has published an evidence based review of what are the background rates of key health events that are occurring continuously in the background, miscarriages, sudden unexpected deaths, Guillain Barre Syndrome etc. This is important as a reminder that when many people are being immunised with influenza vaccines, especially people perhaps at higher risk of these events anyway they will occur in temporal association with immunisation and that such event (so-called Adverse Events Following Immunisation; AEFI) will be mostly or entirely due to coincidence. The article and an ECDC comment goes onto to explain how though these events are taken very seriously by national and EU regulatory agencies so that real causative associations are considered and investigated.

The full ECDC review will be available today at:

[http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/activities/sciadvice/Pages/Scientific_Updates.aspx?filterItemsBy1=ECDC_Subject_what&filterItemsByValue1=Pandemic+\(H1N1\)+2009&filterItemsByChainingOperator1=AND&filterItemsBy2=ECDC_SciWatchClassification&filterItemsByValue2=Scientific+update&uniqueID=sciadv](http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/activities/sciadvice/Pages/Scientific_Updates.aspx?filterItemsBy1=ECDC_Subject_what&filterItemsByValue1=Pandemic+(H1N1)+2009&filterItemsByChainingOperator1=AND&filterItemsBy2=ECDC_SciWatchClassification&filterItemsByValue2=Scientific+update&uniqueID=sciadv)

Other updates

Update on Ukraine

The ministry of health has reported yesterday almost 500 000 cases of acute respiratory illness and 86 deaths related to acute respiratory illness, which are clear increases to the report on the previous day. Influenza A (H1N1) has been identified in a number of samples in domestic laboratories. A 9-person WHO outbreak assessment team, including experts from ECDC and EU memberstates has been deployed at the request of the ministry of health in Ukraine and are presently in Kiev and Lviv. Samples have been sent for verification to the WHO collaborating centre laboratory in Mill Hill, London.

It is clear that the pandemic (H1N1) 2009 has established itself in Ukraine and it is likely that the rapidly evolving situation in Ukraine is mainly related to the pandemic. However, at this stage, others causes for clusters of respiratory illness, specifically in the western oblasts cannot be ruled out.

Norway decided to relax prescription requirement for antivirals

In Norway, the Department of Health and Care services announced that temporary arrangements will be made to make the antivirals oseltamivir and zanamivir accessible in the pharmacies without prescriptions from 5th November.

Full press release available at:

<http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/hod/pressesenter/pressemeldinger/2009/forenklet-tilgang-til-tamiflu-og-relenza.html?id=583759>

Daily Update contents

ECDC has now stopped publishing numbers of confirmed cases reported from EU/EFTA member states – as well as from other countries around the world – in its Daily Update. This is due to the fact that most European countries are now recommending laboratory confirmation only in certain population groups, such as the risk groups. The World Health Organization has also recommended that countries verify only the first few hundred cases; after that exhaustive sampling is not recommended any more.

We will continue to monitor the evolution of the pandemic within Europe mirrored by the number of fatal cases by country and through the Weekly Influenza Surveillance Overview which is published on Fridays. For the countries outside of Europe, we will monitor the number of fatal cases by country and monitor the surveillance reports of selected non-European countries. It must be emphasized that the numbers of fatal cases per country associated with pandemic influenza are likely to be gross underestimates. Access to healthcare, the quality of the laboratory network in the country, the quality of the surveillance system and the case definition used for identifying fatal cases all affect these figures and will vary from country to country.

Daily Updates will be produced by 09:00hrs every morning Monday to Friday. No updates will be produced during weekends and the Daily Update published on Monday includes the weekend's information. The production cycle will be reviewed as needed.

Table 1: Reported number of confirmed Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases admitted to hospitals and intensive care by country as of 05 November 2009, 09:00 hours (CEST) in the EU and EFTA countries

Country (date of report)	Number of cases currently hospitalised	Cumulative number of cases admitted in hospitals	Number of cases currently in intensive care	Cumulative number of cases admitted to intensive care
Austria (23.10.)	-	-	-	-
Belgium (29.10.)	-	-	-	-
Bulgaria (25.10)	-	-	-	-
Cyprus	-	-	-	-
Czech Republic (29.10.)	-	-	-	-
Denmark (04.11.)	-	-	-	-
Estonia (23.10.)	-	11	-	-
Finland (03.11.)	-	-	-	-
France (04.11.)	203	625	36	131
Germany (29.10.)	-	-	-	-
Greece (29.10.)	-	-	-	-
Hungary (25.10.)	-	64	-	-
Iceland (30.10.)	43	-	11	-
Ireland (29.10.)	109	492	23	45
Italy (04.11)	-	-	-	-
Latvia (13.08.)	-	1	-	-
Liechtenstein (25.10.)	-	-	-	-
Lithuania (13.08.)	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg (21.10.)	-	-	0	0
Malta (04.09.)	-	46	-	1
Netherlands (30.10.)	131	335	7	39
Norway (04.11.)	69	497	4	69
Poland (04.11.)	-	-	-	-
Portugal (04.11.)	63	-	9	-
Romania (04.11)	-	-	-	-
Slovakia (12.08.)	2	33	0	0
Slovenia (10.08.)	-	-	-	-
Spain (29.10.)	-	-	-	-
Sweden (25.10.)	26	174	-	-
Switzerland (25.10.)	3	27	-	-
United Kingdom ^a (29.10.)	751	-	157	-

Note: Data for the EU and EFTA countries correspond to the Ministry of Health or surveillance centre websites. New updates with changes in figures are shaded in yellow. (-) denotes no information readily available in official sources.

^aData includes all probable cases for England only. Does not include Scotland (580 cumulative hospitalisations), Wales (192) and Northern Ireland (437).

Table 2. Reported number of new and cumulative confirmed fatal Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases in EU and EFTA countries, as 05 November 2009, 09:00 hours CEST, and in the rest of the world by country, as of 04 November 2009, 16:00 hours CEST.

Country	Number of new fatal cases since previous national update	Cumulative number of fatal cases
EU AND EFTA COUNTRIES		
Austria	-	1
Belgium	1	8
Bulgaria	1	5
Czech Republic	-	1
Finland	-	1
France	5	49 ^a
Germany	-	6
Greece	-	3
Hungary	-	4
Iceland	-	1
Ireland	-	10
Italy	4	21
Luxembourg	-	1
Malta	-	3
Netherlands	-	10
Norway	-	15
Portugal	-	5
Spain	-	63
Sweden	-	2
United Kingdom	1	143
Total	12	352
OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES & CENTRAL ASIA		
Belarus	1	1
Croatia	-	1
Moldova	1	2
Russia	-	14
Serbia	1	2
Ukraine	1	1
Total	4	21
MEDITERRANEAN AND MIDDLE-EAST		
Bahrain	-	6
Egypt	1	6
Iran	-	28

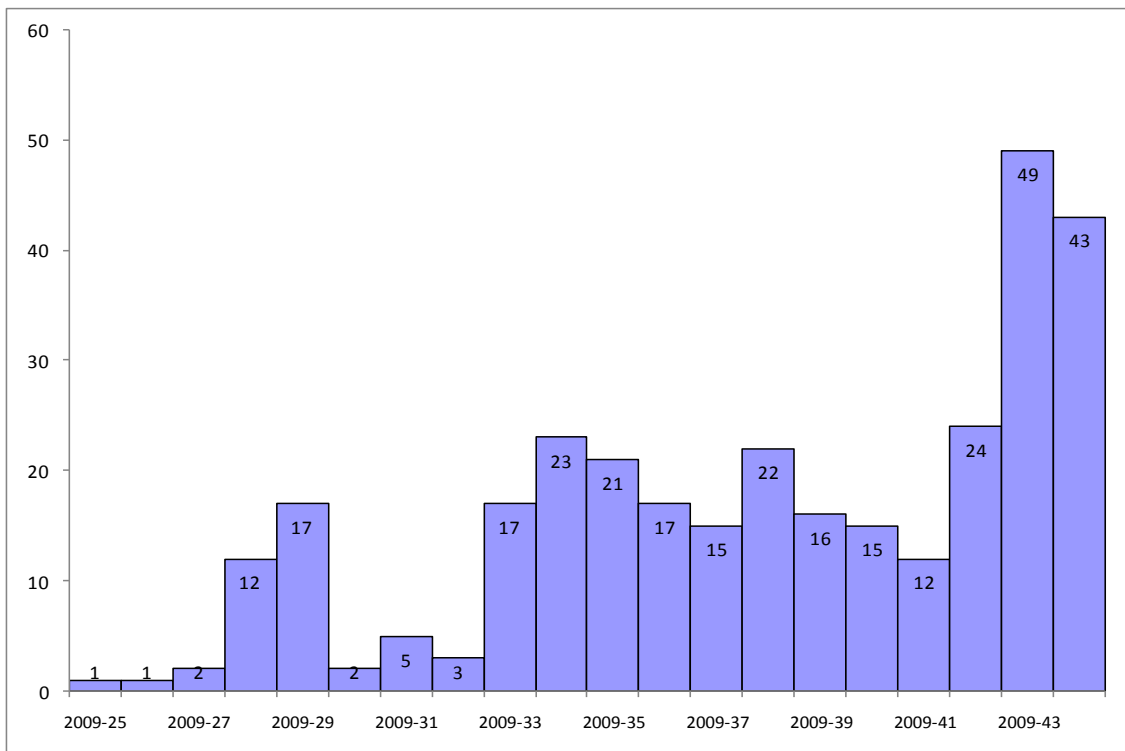
Iraq	-	7
Israel	-	39
Jordan	-	7
Kuwait	-	21
Lebanon	-	3
Occupied Palestinian Territory	-	1
Oman	-	25
Qatar	-	4
Saudi Arabia	4	66
Syria	-	7
Turkey	4	15
United Arab Emirates	-	6
Yemen	1	17
Total	10	258
AFRICA		
Ghana	-	1
Madagascar	-	1
Mauritius	-	8
Mozambique	-	2
Namibia	-	1
Sao Tome & Principe	-	2
South Africa	-	91
Sudan	-	1
Tanzania	-	1
Total	-	108
NORTH AMERICA		
Canada	6	101
Mexico	-	377
USA	-	1004
Total	6	1482
CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN		
Bahamas	-	4
Barbados	-	3
Cayman Islands	-	1
Costa Rica	-	38
Cuba	-	7
Dominican Republic	-	22
El Salvador	-	22
Guatemala	-	18
Honduras	-	16

Jamaica	-	5
Nicaragua	-	11
Panama	-	11
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	1
Suriname	-	2
Trinidad-Tobago	-	5
Total	-	166
SOUTH AMERICA		
Argentina	-	593
Bolivia	-	56
Brazil	-	1368
Chile	-	136
Colombia	5	136
Ecuador	-	75
Paraguay	-	52
Peru	-	162
Uruguay	-	33
Venezuela	-	95
Total	5	2706
NORTH-EAST & SOUTH ASIA		
Afghanistan	-	1
Bangladesh	-	6
China (Mainland)	1	8
Hong Kong SAR China	-	37
India	3	478
Japan	1	28
Macao SAR China	-	2
Mongolia	2	6
South Korea	3	45
Taiwan	-	27
Total	10	638
SOUTH-EAST ASIA		
Brunei Darussalam	-	1
Cambodia	-	4
Indonesia	-	10
Laos Peoples Democratic Republic	-	1
Malaysia	-	77
Philippines	-	30
Singapore	-	18
Thailand	2	184

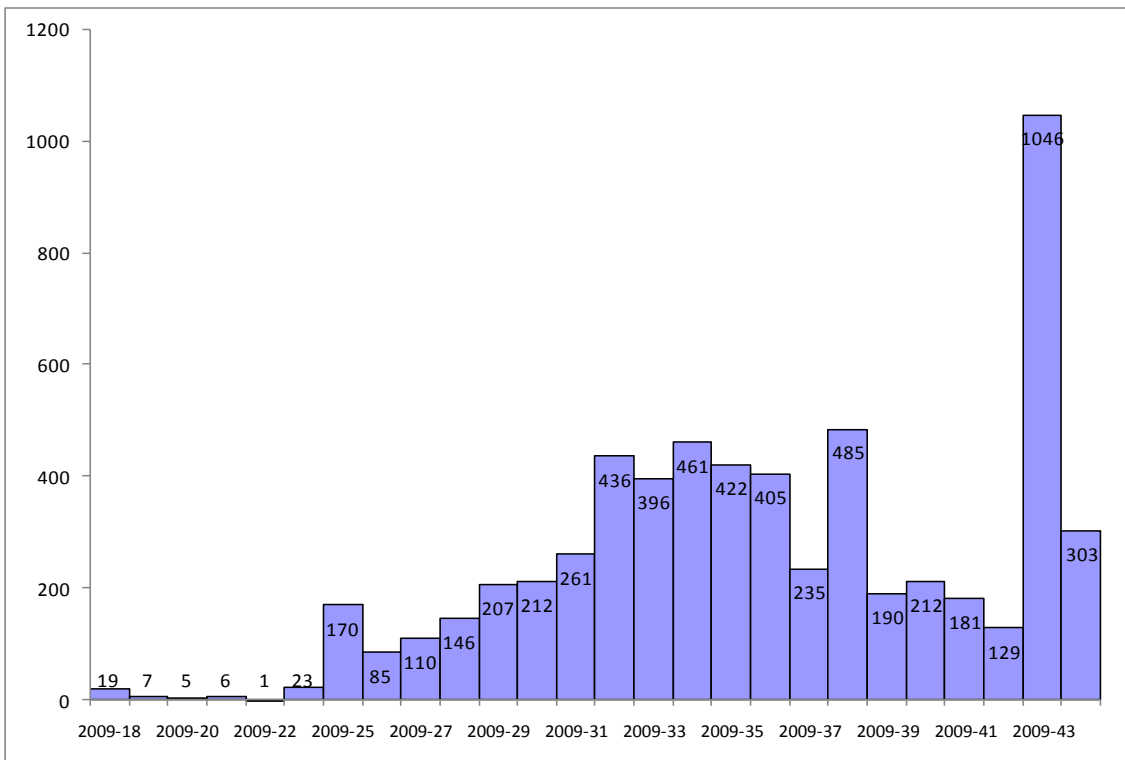
Vietnam	-	37
Total	2	362
AUSTRALIA & PACIFIC		
Australia	-	186
Cook Islands	-	1
Marshall Islands	-	1
New Zealand	-	19
Samoa	-	2
Solomon Islands	-	1
Tonga	-	1
Total	-	211
TOTAL	49	6304

^a Deaths reported from France include 1 in Guyana, 9 in New Caledonia, 7 in the French Polynesia, 6 in the Reunion, 1 in Martinique, 2 in Mayotte, 1 in Guadeloupe and 22 in mainland France.

Figure 1: Number of confirmed deaths among pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases by week of notification. EU and EFTA countries (upper panel, week 25 to week 44, 2009) and world (lower panel^{a,b}, week 18 to week 44, 2009).



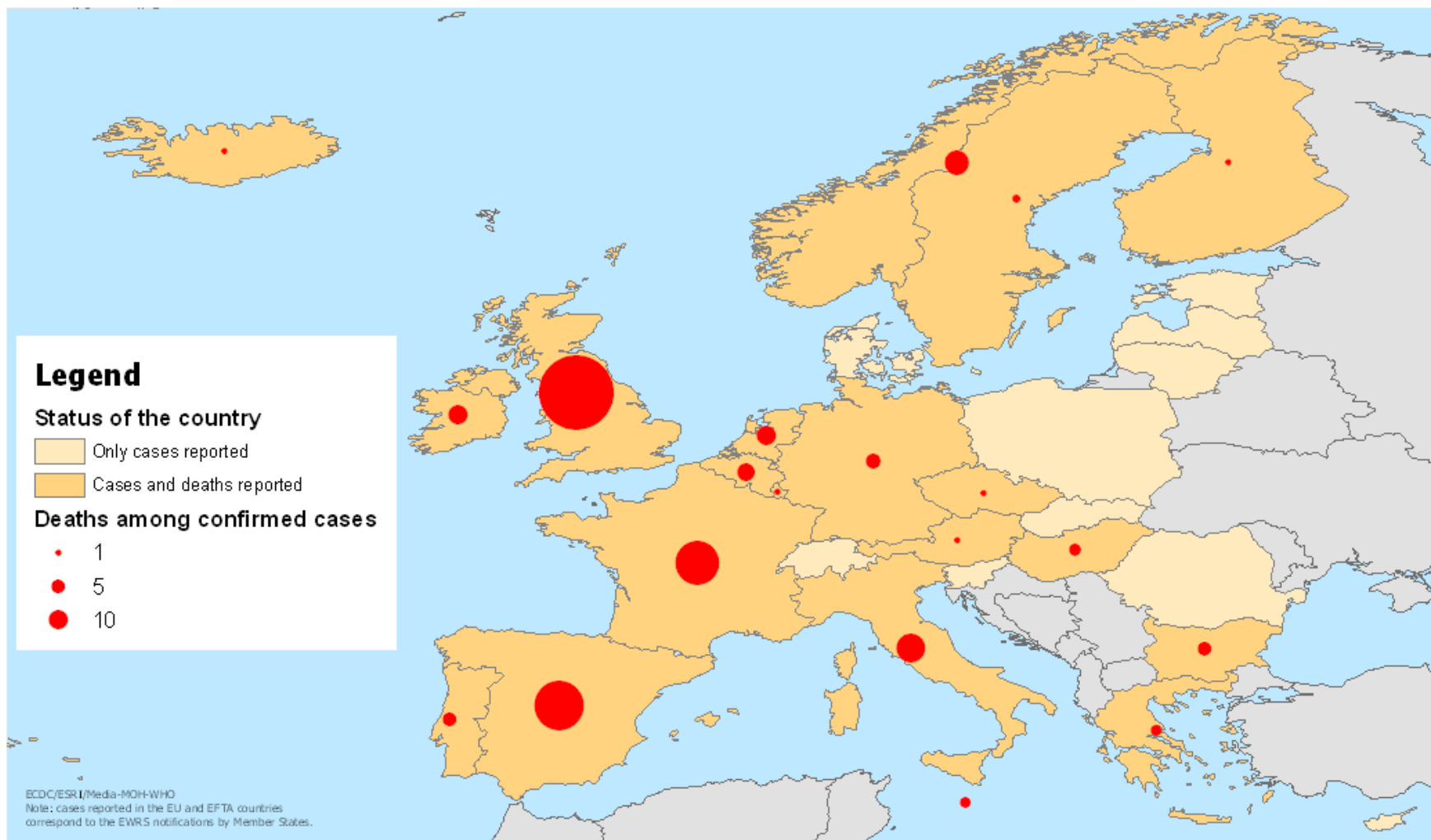
Notification week



Notification week

^a The apparent increase in the number of deaths in week 43 is due to the aggregate reporting of fatal cases from Brazil from weeks 37 to 40 and to our batch report of US fatal cases since August 1st.

Reported cumulative number of confirmed fatal cases of influenza A(H1N1)v in EU and EFTA countries, as of 05 November 2009, 09:00 hours CEST



Reported cumulative number of confirmed fatal cases of influenza A(H1N1)v and country reporting status by country, as of 04 November 2009, 16:00 hours CEST

