

# Ontario Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness Study (VE) Bulletin.

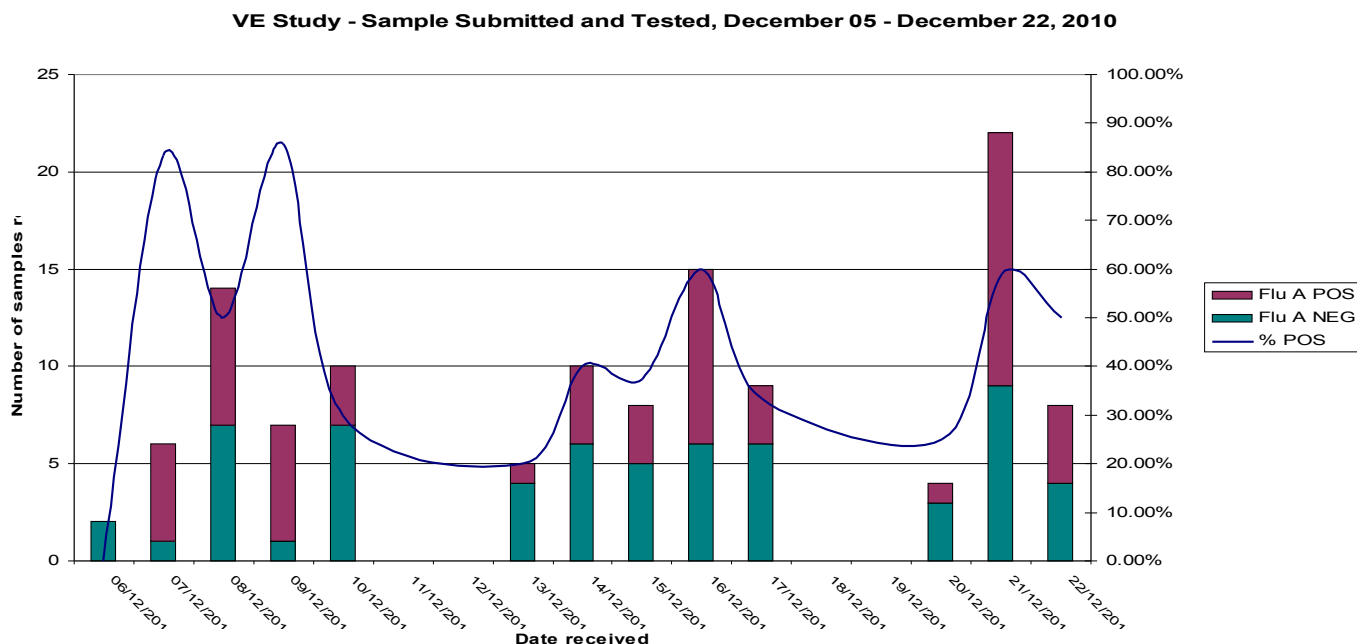
## Dear Sentinel,

Since December 5 the Public Health Lab - Toronto received 135 samples from VE sentinels, with overall influenza positivity rates in Ontario at 49% for study samples. Most samples came from Toronto and surrounding regions of Halton, Peel, York and Durham. Through the study influenza has been detected in Haliburton-Kawartha-Pine Ridge region in the east and Waterloo in the west. Influenza A is the most common respiratory virus circulating, with a total of 59 positive samples between December 5 and December 23 [51 flu A (H3), 7 flu A (pH1N1), 1 flu A (subtype could not be determined), and 0 flu B].

## Study related news and issues:

Please fully complete the patient questionnaire and include the date of collection on the requisition.

**Figure 1: Results from Ontario VE specimens tested for influenza by RT PCR, December 05 - 22, 2010.**



**Table 1: Respiratory viruses detected among VE specimens collected December 5 - 22, 2010**

Detected viruses	Number of positive specimens	Public Health Unit
Influenza A/H3	44	DUR, HAL, HAM, NIA, TOR, WAT, YRK
Influenza A/pH1N1	7	DUR, PEEL, TOR, YRK
Influenza B	0	
Parainfluenza	3	TOR
Coronavirus	11	DUR, HAL, PEEL, TOR, YRK
Adenovirus	0	
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	1	TOR
Entero/Rhinovirus	6	HDN, PEEL, TOR, WDG, YRK
Human Metapneumovirus	2	HKP, TOR
<b>Total Positive</b>	<b>74</b>	
<b>Total specimens tested</b>	<b>123</b>	

(Public Health Unit: DUR – Durham, HAL – Halton, HAM – Hamilton, HDN – Haldimand-Norfolk, HKP – Hliburton-KAawartha-Pine Ridge, NIA – Niagara Regional Area, NPS – North Bay Parry Sound, OTT – City of Ottawa, PEEL – Peel region, SMD – Simcoe-Muskoka District, TOR – Toronto, WAT – Waterloo, WDG – Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph, YRK – Region of York)

For more information see: <http://www.oahpp.ca/resources/studies/vestudy/index.html>

## **Influenza activity in Ontario**

Overall, influenza activity in Ontario for weeks 48-49 (November 28 – December 11, 2010), was higher than for the previous weeks with Ontario health units reporting 142 new cases of confirmed influenza. ILI consultation rate reported by FluWatch sentinels is higher than the average reported for week 48 and 49 in previous years.

For more information see:

Week 48: [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/flu/bulletins/2010/docs/flu\\_bul\\_20101210.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/flu/bulletins/2010/docs/flu_bul_20101210.pdf)

Week 49: [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/flu/bulletins/2010/docs/flu\\_bul\\_20101217.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/flu/bulletins/2010/docs/flu_bul_20101217.pdf)

# Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!