

Swine-lineage Influenza A H1N1 UK update

02/06/2009

A: UK epidemiology - latest summary of UK cases

As of 02/06/2009 339 cases have been confirmed in the UK since 27 April 2009: 295 in England, one in Northern Ireland, 42 in Scotland and one in Wales (Table 1, Figure 1). No deaths have been reported from these cases.

Cases assumed to have acquired their infection as a result of travel - 75

Cases assumed to have acquired their infection in the UK – 177

Data is still being followed up on 87 cases.

Of those assumed acquired in the UK:

- 40 of these are secondary cases (contact with a case in a returned traveller)
- 124 of these are tertiary cases
- 13 are sporadic (no known travel history or contact with a known case)

The majority of cases are in school age children and young adults (Figure 3)

Table 1: Confirmed cases by Region and Devolved Administration, United Kingdom as reported by 2 June 2009.

Region	Confirmed
EAST	28
EAST MIDLANDS	5
LONDON	91
NORTH EAST	1
NORTH WEST	13
SOUTH EAST	40
SOUTH WEST	7
WEST MIDLANDS	91
YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE	2
TOTAL ENGLAND	295*
NORTHERN IRELAND	1
SCOTLAND	42
WALES	1
TOTAL UK	339

* Region for 17 cases not yet assigned

Figure 1: Map of confirmed cases by Region and Devolved Administration, United Kingdom as reported by 02 June 2009.

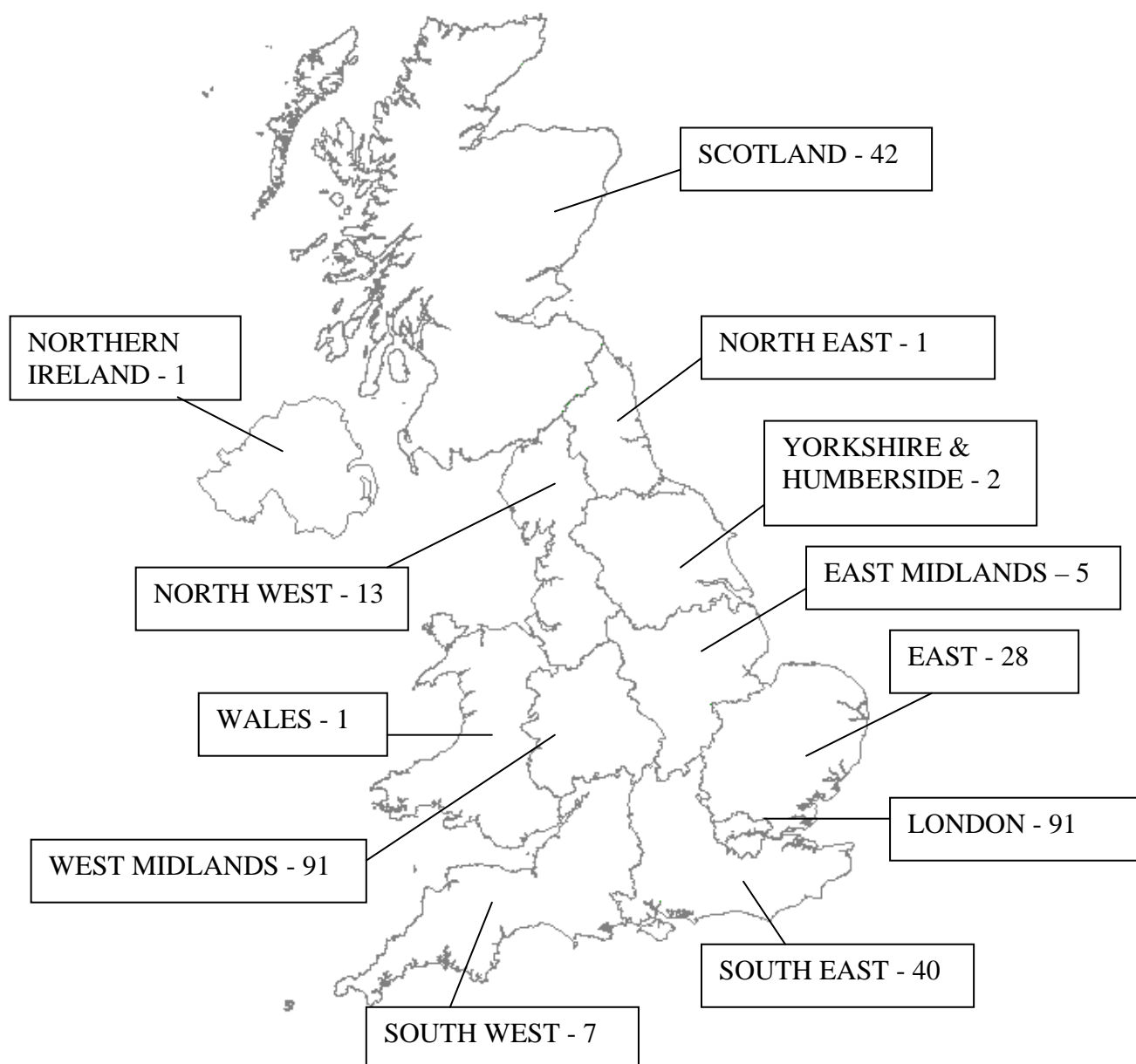


Figure 2: Cases of laboratory confirmed swine-lineage influenza A H1N1 by day of onset and assumed mode of transmission, 02 June 2009 (n=339), United Kingdom

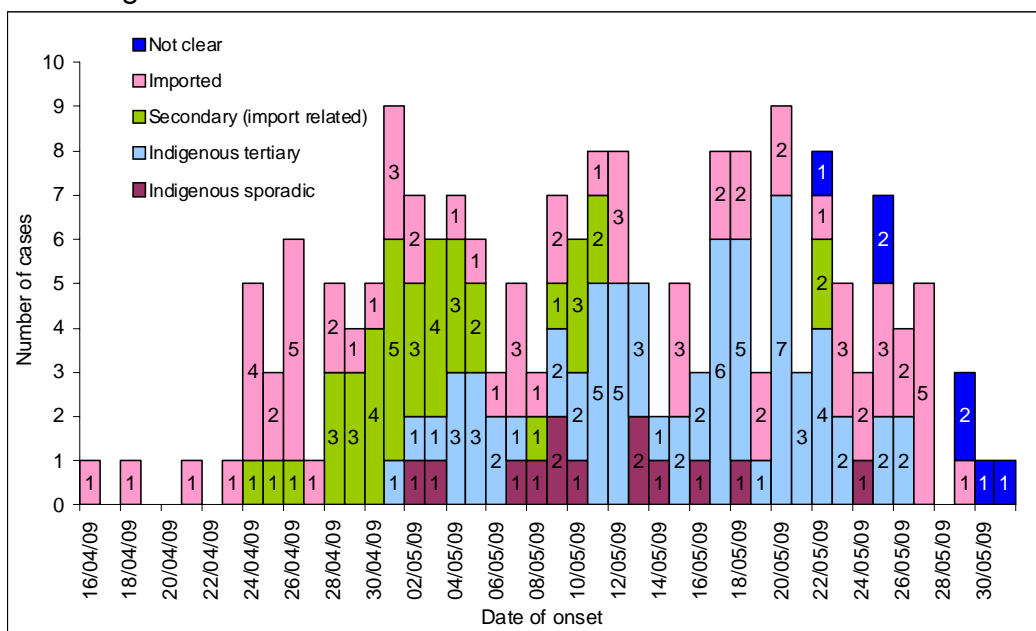
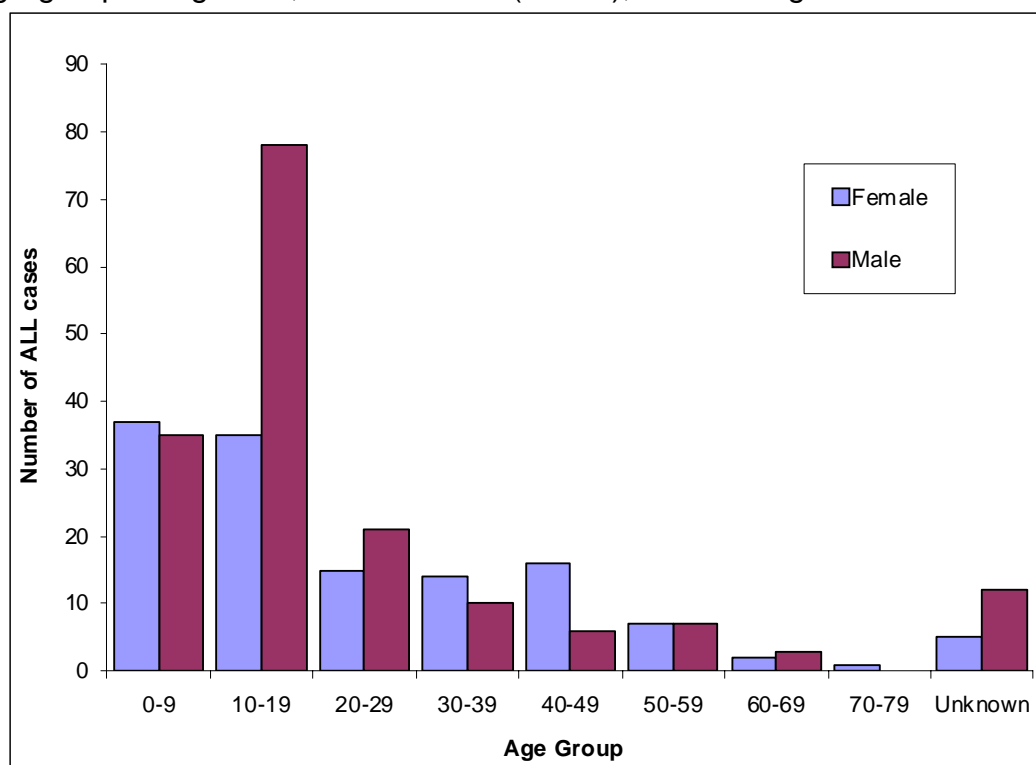


Figure 3: Cases of laboratory confirmed swine-lineage influenza A H1N1 by age-group and gender, 02 June 2009 (n=339), United Kingdom



* 36 cases with unknown gender.

B. UK surveillance

Syndromic Surveillance

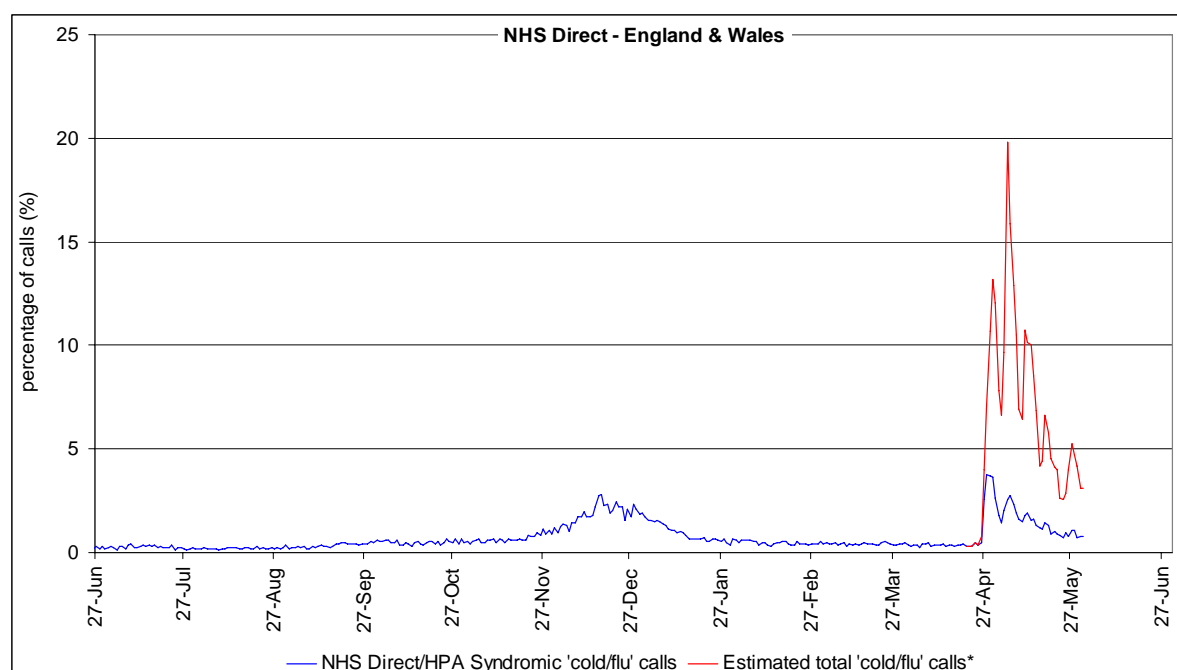
NHS Direct/HPA Syndromic Surveillance System 'swine/flu' and cold/flu algorithm calls (updated to 31 May)

NHS Direct has an existing algorithm for cold/flu calls. In addition, a separate algorithm has been set up for swine flu calls. Both indices are shown on Figure 4. When both indices are added together, they show that the total proportion of calls to NHS Direct for cold/flu has continued to decline since the beginning of the week.

The total 'swine flu' algorithm calls decreased to 539 calls on Friday 29 May from 642 the previous day; 332 (61.6%) were 'cold/flu' related. Adding these 'swine flu' algorithm 'cold/flu' calls to the NHS Direct/HPA Syndromic Surveillance 'cold/flu' calls (see section 4 below) reveals that the proportion of estimated total 'cold/flu' calls decreased from 4.2% on Fri 29 May to 3.1% on Sun 31 May (Figure 4). Call proportions decreased in both SHAs to 4.7% and 4.6% respectively on Sun 31 May.

There continue to be significantly high proportions of 'cold/flu' calls across most of England and Wales. Nationally call proportions fell to 0.7% on Fri 29 May and increased to 0.8% on both Sat 30 and Sun 31 May with the highest proportions in London (1.35%), the West Midlands (1.05%) and South East Coast (1.05%) on Sun 31 May. The age breakdown of 'cold/flu' calls on Sun 31 May revealed that the highest proportions were in the 5-14, 15-44 and 1-4 year age groups (1.2%, 0.9% and 0.8% respectively).

Figure 4: Daily NHS Direct/HPA Syndromic Surveillance System cold/flu calls 2008-2009 and daily NHS Direct adjusted total 'cold/flu' calls*.



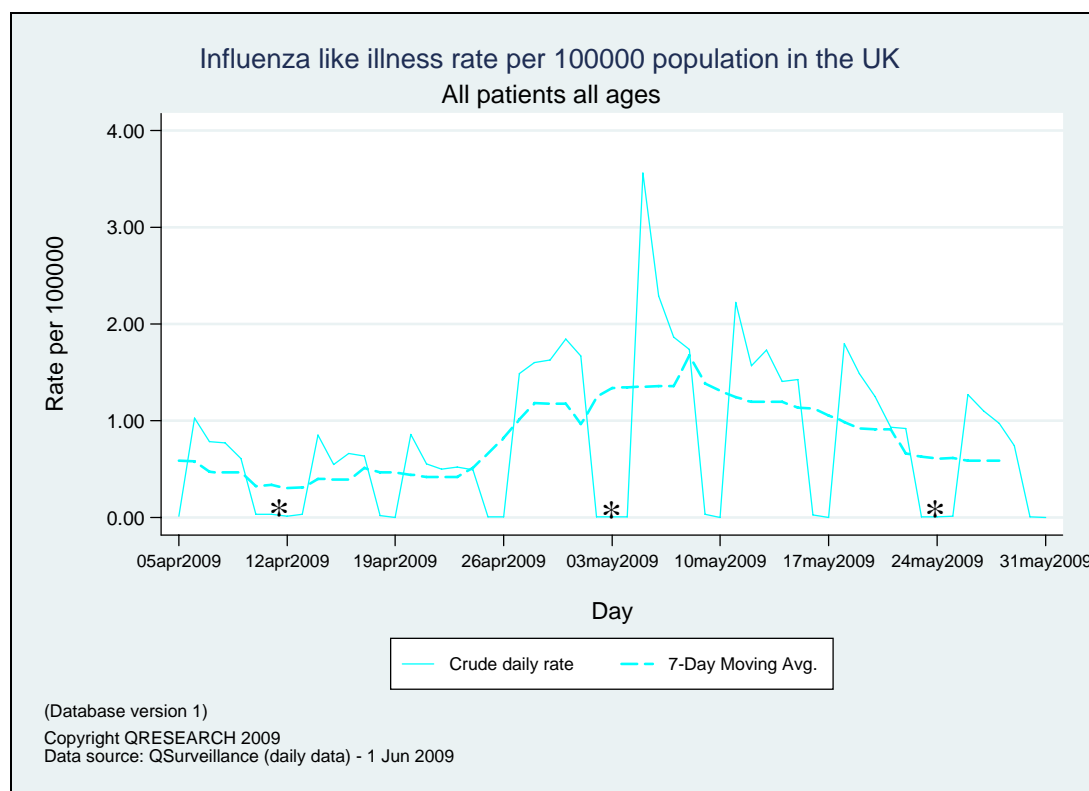
*Estimated total 'cold/flu' calls calculated by adding NHS Direct/HPA Syndromic 'cold/flu' calls to NHS Direct 'swine flu' algorithm 'cold/flu' calls (and calculating percentage using all NHS Direct calls as the denominator).

Daily QSurveillance® (updated to 31 May)

The national consultation rate of ILI decreased to 0.7 per 100,000 on Fri 29th May from 0.8 per 100,000 the previous day (Figure 5). At SHA level London, South East Coast and South Central had highest rates. The consultation rate in London was unchanged but remains significantly higher than UK. The consultation rate in West Midlands decreased from 1.3 to 0.5 per 100,000 but is no longer significantly high. The consultation rate in the Heart of Birmingham PCT decreased from 4.6 per 100,000 to 1.1 per 100,000 but is no longer significantly high. We will continue to monitor this over the coming days. Highest consultation rates (UK) were in the 25-44, 45-64, 15-24, and 65-74 years age groups (1.1, 0.9, 0.8 & 0.8 per 100,000 respectively).

There were 2 recorded cases of antivirals prescribed for ILI: both in South East Coast.

Figure 5: QSurveillance® – daily consultation rate for influenza-like illness in UK (all ages)

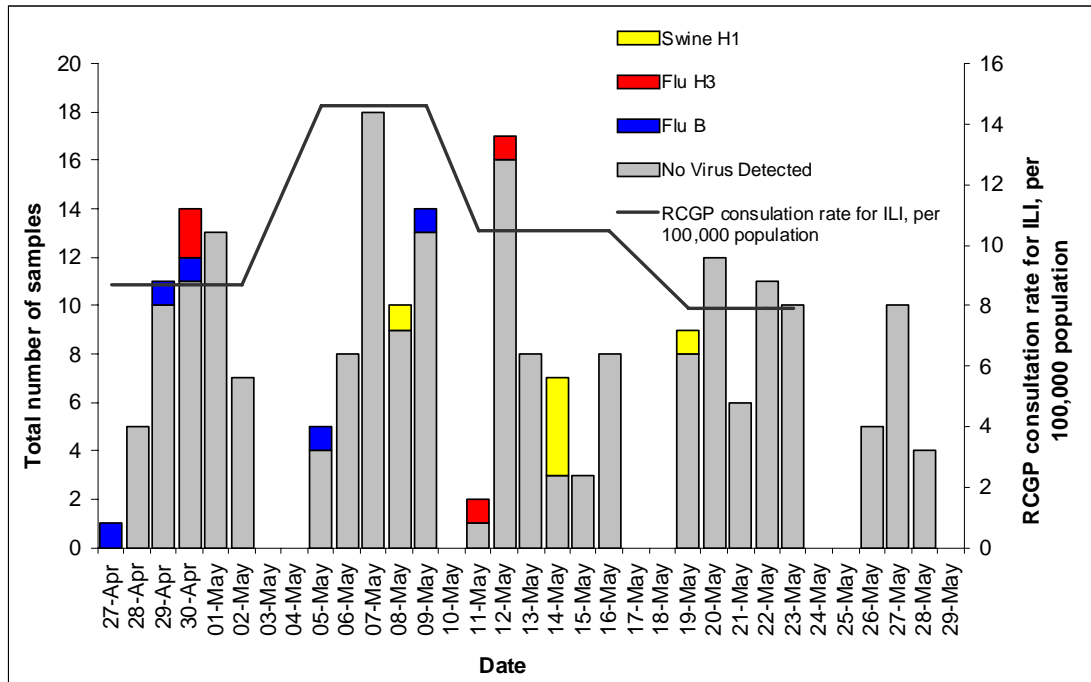


* Bank holidays affected GP incidence rates due to the limited availability of GPs over these periods

Enhanced virological surveillance

Primary care data are being supported by enhanced virological surveillance schemes whereby sentinel general practices are submitting samples from patients with flu-like illness (ILI) for testing for evidence of the new swine-lineage influenza A H1N1 (Figure 6). These data are in addition to the samples collected through follow up of persons with ILI symptoms who are known to be at risk due to travel in affected countries or are contacts of cases.

Figure 6: Data from the RCGP community based surveillance scheme (27/04/09 – 29/05/09)



* The RCGP ILI rate increased at the beginning of May, it has since decreased and remains below baseline levels (30 per 100,000).

C: International situation

WHO (update no. 39) at 06:00 GMT, 26 May 2009

Cases have now been confirmed from 62 countries resulting in a total of 17,410 confirmed cases of Influenza A/H1N1 infection worldwide, and 115 deaths. The USA has reported 7927 cases including 11 deaths.

(http://www.who.int/csr/don/2009_05_29/en/index.html)

For further information on the situation in the USA and Europe please see the following websites:

USA Center for Disease Control <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/update.htm>

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control <http://ecdc.europa.eu/>