

Respiratory infections

0043

Infections with A/H3N2/ subtype in Poland during the 2016/2017 epidemic season

Karol Szymański¹, Katarzyna Cieślak¹, Dorota Kowalczyk¹, Ewelina Hallmann-Szelińska¹, Lidia Bernadeta Brydak¹

¹National Institute of Public Health, National Institute of Hygiene, Department of Influenza Research, National Influenza Centre, Warsaw, Poland

The 2016/2017 epidemic season was characterized by a lower number of tested samples than the 2015/2016 season. In the 2016/2017 season, the dominant subtype was A/H3N2/ which was most often diagnosed in patients over 25 years of age. This subtype was also often diagnosed in older people; this overlaps with the risk assessment prepared by ECDC at the beginning of the season. A slightly different situation occurred in the 2014/2015 season, when the subtype A/H3N2/ was dominant, but the virus was most commonly diagnosed in children up to 14 years of age. In both of these seasons, the least confirmations were observed in patients between the age of 15 and 24 years. In the 2016/2017 epidemic season the subtype A/H3N2/ was most often diagnosed in the west pomeranian voivodeship, in the warmian-masovian and opolskie voivodships the subtype was not confirmed. Also, in the 2016/2017 epidemic season 11 coinfection of subtype A/H3N2/ with influenza and influenza viruses in Poland was registered.