

Respiratory infections

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The activity of respiratory viruses in different voivodships of Poland among patients in seven age groups during the 2016/2017 epidemic season

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In Poland, influenza surveillance is conducted by 16 Provincial Sanitary Epidemiological Stations, headed by the Department of Influenza Research, National Influenza Centre at the National Institute of Health - National Institute of Hygiene (NIH-NIH). During the 2016/2017 epidemic season, more than 4,000 samples were tested for respiratory infections, with approximately 1,800 positive results, the most of which were among patients over 65 years old. Most samples were tested in the Zachodniopomorskie Voivodship, in which region the most positive results were also recorded. Across the country 25 deaths due to post influenza infections and complications were recorded, of which 20 were among individuals over 65 years old. During the 2016/2017 season the dominant subtype was A/H3N2/, unlike the subtype A/H1N1/California/7/2009 during the previous season. The high number of confirmed infections of subtype A/H3N2/ can attest to low vaccination rates.