

Caribbean Public Health Agency

Monthly Syndromic Surveillance Summary

January 22, 2017 (EW 4, 2017) to February 18, 2017 (EW 7, 2017)
Report #2 of 12

This report summarises the results of syndromic surveillance data received during the months of January and February, 2017 for the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Member States [CMS].

Gastroenteritis was the most flagged syndrome during this period. CMS are encouraged to send samples to the CARPHA laboratory so that the aetiological agents for these cases can be determined.

1. **Fever and respiratory (Acute Respiratory Infection [ARI])**

A total of 8,504 cases were reported (refer to table 1). The number of cases increased from 5,748 reported during Epidemiologic Week (EW) 52, 2016 to EW 3, 2017. Of the cases reported, 43.1% were in the <5 years age group and 56.9% were in the ≥5 years age group. An unusual increase in the number of cases of ARI was reported by Grenada, Cayman Islands and Montserrat (refer to table 3).

2. **Gastroenteritis**

There were 4,806 cases reported (refer to table 1). Cases increased from 3,019 reported during EW 52, 2016 to EW 3, 2017. Of the cases reported, 40.9% were in the <5 years age group and 59.1% were in the ≥5 years age group. Grenada, Anguilla, Dominica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and St. Maarten reported unexpected increases in the number of cases of gastroenteritis observed (refer to table 3).

3. **Fever with Neurological Symptoms and Fever with Haemorrhagic Symptoms**

A total of 27 cases of fever with neurological symptoms were reported during this period, with the highest number of cases (9) being reported in EW 6, 2017 (refer to table 1). There were no reported cases of fever with haemorrhagic symptoms. The number of cases of fever with neurological symptoms reported were within the expected range for that period.

4. **Undifferentiated fever**

A total of 1,024 cases were reported, of which 45.9% were in the <5 years age group and 54.1% in the ≥5 years age group. The number of cases increased from 968 reported during EW 52, 2016 to EW 3, 2017. An unexpected increase in cases was reported by Grenada during EW 6 (refer to table 3).

Syndrome	Number of Cases per EW				
	4	5	6	7	Total
Fever and Respiratory	1999	2209	2189	2107	8504
Gastroenteritis	1109	1253	1334	1110	4806
Fever and neurological symptoms	6	6	9	6	27
Fever and haemorrhagic symptoms	0	0	0	0	0
Undifferentiated fever	264	243	255	262	1024

Table 1: Number of cases for each syndrome, EW 4-7, 2017

Laboratory Update

In instances where requests are made for Zika Virus testing, CMS are encouraged to send both urine and blood samples for testing. The CARPHA laboratory received 50 samples for Zika testing (between 01/01/2017 to 28/01/2017) from CMS, of which only 2 samples rendered a Zika positive result.

Additionally, CMS are also encouraged to submit syndromic surveillance data in a timely manner. Data should be sent to CARPHA-Epidemiology@carpha.org.

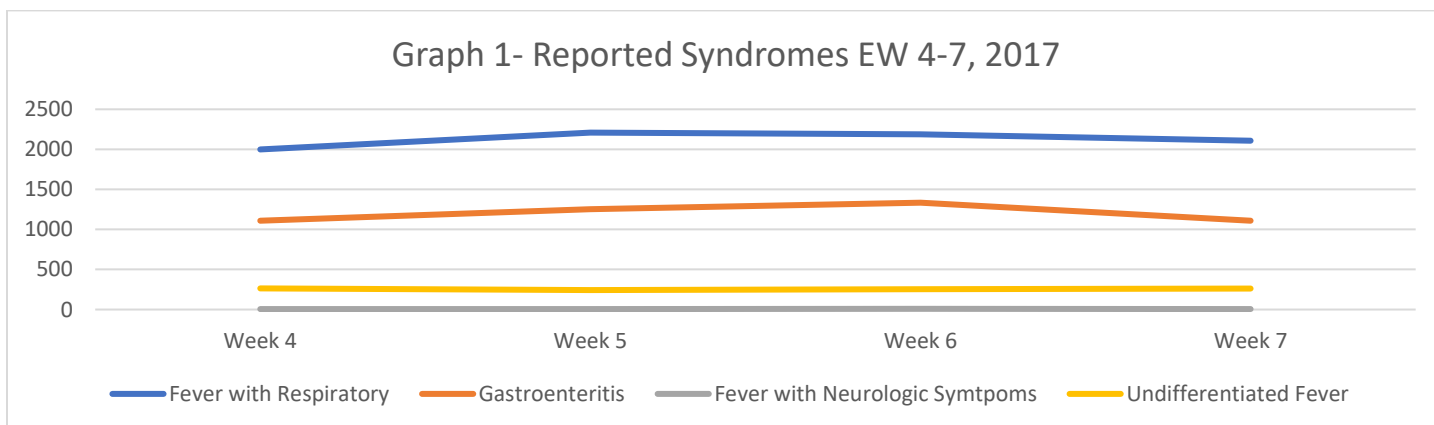
Syndrome	Number of Cases per EW				Total
	4	5	6	7	
Fever and respiratory <5	838	928	992	910	3668
Fever and respiratory >5	1161	1281	1197	1197	4836
Gastroenteritis <5	469	510	528	457	1964
Gastroenteritis >5	640	743	806	653	2842
Undifferentiated fever <5	123	98	123	126	470
Undifferentiated fever >5	141	145	132	136	554
Fever and haemorrhagic symptoms	0	0	0	0	0
Fever and neurological symptoms	6	6	9	6	27

Table 2: Number of reported cases for each syndrome, EW 4-7, 2017

Syndrome	Country	Epi Week	Notes
Fever and respiratory <5	Grenada	4	6 samples were received from the Cayman Islands 30/01/2017. 1 Influenza A Virus Type H3N2 [Seasonal Influenza] result was reported on 02/02/2017. Awaiting the ChikDenZika results for the other 2 patients.
	Cayman Islands, Grenada, Montserrat	5	
Fever and respiratory >5	Grenada, Turks and Caicos Islands	4	
	Cayman Islands	5	
Gastroenteritis <5	Grenada, St. Maarten	4	5 samples were received from Dominica on 17/02/2017 for testing. 1 sample was from the <5 years age group and the other sample was from the ≥5 years age group. Norovirus - Negative result was sent on 21/02/2017.
	Anguilla, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Vincent and the Grenadines	7	
Gastroenteritis >5	Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines	4	
	Dominica	5	
	Dominica, Montserrat	6	
	Anguilla, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Vincent and the Grenadines	7	
Undifferentiated fever <5	NIL		
Undifferentiated fever >5	Grenada	6	N/A
Fever and haemorrhagic symptoms	NIL	N/A	N/A
Fever and neurological symptoms	NIL	N/A	N/A

Table 3: Flags noted for EW 4-7, 2017

(Flags are identified when the observed number of cases statistically exceeds the number of expected cases for the syndrome under investigation during a specific time frame)



1

¹ All data as of 06/03/2017