

Caribbean Public Health Agency

Monthly Syndromic Surveillance Summary

March 19, 2017 (EW 12, 2017) to April 15, 2017 (EW 15, 2017)
Report #4 of 12

This report summarises the results of syndromic surveillance data received during the months of March and April 2017 for the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Member States [CMS]. Gastroenteritis was the most flagged syndrome during this period. In response, CMS are encouraged to send samples to the CARPHA laboratory so that the aetiological agents for these cases can be determined.

There has been increased interest in Yellow Fever due to the occurrence of confirmed cases in Brazil. More information can be found at the following link http://www2.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_topics&view=readall&cid=2194&Itemid=40784&lang=en. CARPHA has since issued a Yellow Fever Update and will continue to keep CMS abreast of the situation as information becomes available. The update can be found on the CARPHA website at http://carpha.org/Portals/0/DataAndStatsWebPage/PubsAndPosters/Yellow%20Fever%20Update_March%2020%202017.pdf.

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

A total of 7,986 cases were reported (refer to table 1). The number of cases decreased from 8,212 reported during Epidemiologic Week (EW) 8, 2017 to EW 11, 2017. Of the cases reported, 45.1% were in the <5 years age group and 54.9% were in the ≥5 years age group. An unusual increase in the number of cases of ARI was reported by Dominica and Montserrat (refer to table 3).

2. *Gastroenteritis*

There were 3,522 cases reported (refer to table 1). Cases decreased from 4,109 reported during EW 8, 2017 to EW 11, 2017. Of the cases reported, 38.6% were in the <5 years age group and 61.4% were in the ≥5 years age group. St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Grenada, Anguilla, St. Eustatius and Curaçao 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 38 cases of fever with neurological symptoms were reported during this period, with the highest number of cases

(15) being reported in EW 13, 2017 (refer to table 1). There was 1 reported case of fever with haemorrhagic symptoms. The number of cases of fever with neurological symptoms reported exceeded the expected range for that period.

4. *Undifferentiated fever*

A total of 1,159 cases were reported. Of the cases reported, 49.5% were in the <5 years age group and 50.5% in the ≥5 years age group. The number of cases increased from 1,144 reported during EW 8, 2017 to EW 11, 2017. St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname and Cayman Islands reported a slight increase above the baseline number of expected cases (refer to table 3).

Syndrome	Number of Cases per EW				
	12	13	14	15	Total
Fever and Respiratory	2514	2099	2058	1315	7986
Gastroenteritis	1104	984	933	501	3522
Fever and neurological symptoms	5	15	7	11	38
Fever and haemorrhagic symptoms	0	1	0	0	1
Undifferentiated fever	288	288	366	217	1159

Table 1: Number of cases for each syndrome, EW 12-15, 2017

Laboratory Update

CARPHA can perform Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing for Yellow Fever on acute serum samples from symptomatic patients within 5 days from onset of symptoms. Turnaround time for testing for Yellow Fever is 2 business days.

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

Syndrome	Number of Cases per EW				Total
	12	13	14	15	
Fever and respiratory <5	1091	917	960	634	3602
Fever and respiratory >5	1423	1182	1098	681	4384
Gastroenteritis <5	405	384	370	199	1358
Gastroenteritis >5	699	600	563	302	2164
Undifferentiated fever <5	120	138	183	133	574
Undifferentiated fever >5	168	150	183	84	585
Fever and haemorrhagic symptoms	0	1	0	0	1
Fever and neurological symptoms	5	15	7	11	38

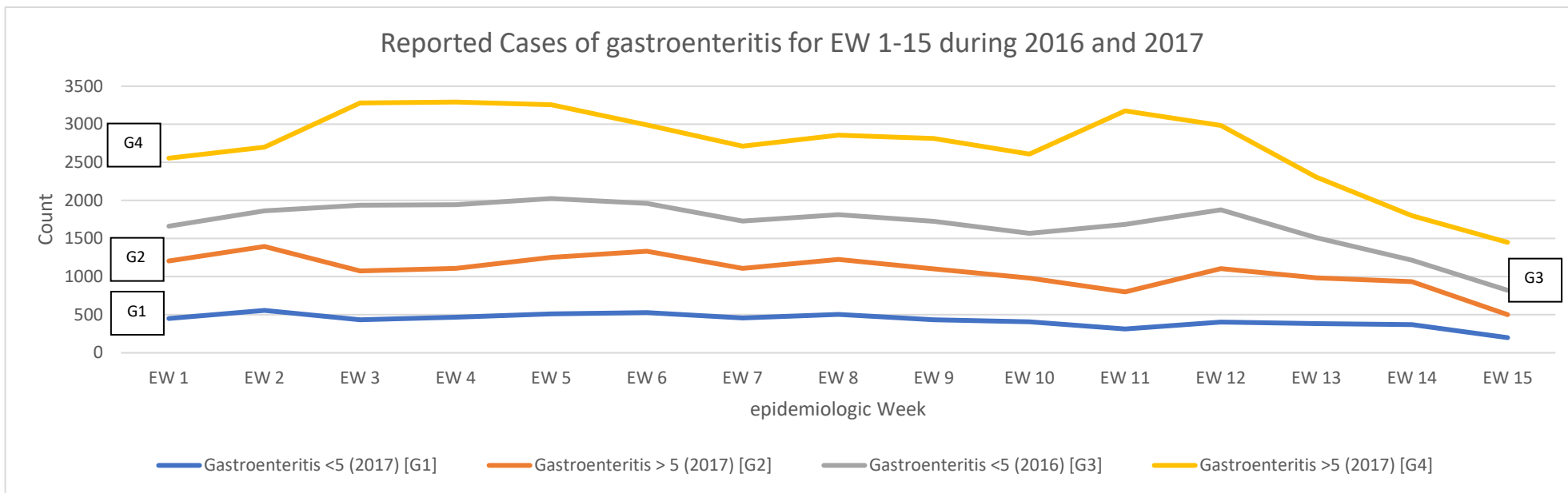
Table 2: Number of reported cases for each syndrome, EW 12-15, 2017

Syndrome	Country	Epi Week	Notes
Fever and respiratory <5	Dominica	14	To date no samples have been received.
	Dominica	15	
Fever and respiratory >5	Montserrat	13	To date no samples have been received.
Gastroenteritis <5	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	12	To date no samples have been received.
	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	14	
Gastroenteritis >5	St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada	12	To date no samples have been received.
	Anguilla, St. Eustatius	13	
	Curacao	14	
Undifferentiated fever <5	Curacao	12	To date no samples have been received.
	Cayman Islands	13	
Undifferentiated fever >5	St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname	12	To date no samples have been received.
	Suriname	14	
	Cayman Islands	15	
Fever and haemorrhagic symptoms	NIL	N/A	To date no samples have been received.
Fever and neurological symptoms	Jamaica	13	To date no samples have been received.

Table 3: Flags noted for EW 12-15, 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. These increases are monitored by CARPHA so that prompt action can be taken if needed.)

Reported Cases of gastroenteritis for EW 1-15 during 2016 and 2017



Reported Cases of Fever with Respiratory for EW 1-15 during 2016 and 2017

