

CSR

CAREC SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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REPORT ON COMMUNICABLE DISEASES FOR WEEKS 1-8, 2011

SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

During weeks 1-8, 2011, an increase was noted in fever and respiratory, fever and neurological, fever and haemorrhagic, and undifferentiated fever syndromes, respectively.

Fever and Haemorrhagic Symptoms

During weeks 1-8, 2011, 17 cases of fever and haemorrhagic symptoms were reported to CAREC from its member countries [Table 1]. This figure is more than twice the number reported during the corresponding period in 2010 (8 cases). A majority of cases were reported from Jamaica (11 cases, 64.7%). To date in 2011, Jamaica has reported an increase in both dengue and dengue haemorrhagic fever cases compared to the corresponding

Contents

Report on Communicable Diseases	1
• Syndromic Surveillance	1
• Figures	3
• Food and Water Borne Diseases	4
• Airborne Diseases	5
• Vaccine Preventable Diseases	9
• Vector-Borne Diseases	9
• Tables	9
• News and Announcements	14



period in 2010. Fever and haemorrhagic cases were also reported from Suriname (4 cases, 23.5%) and Curacao (2 cases, 11.8%).

Fever and Neurological Symptoms

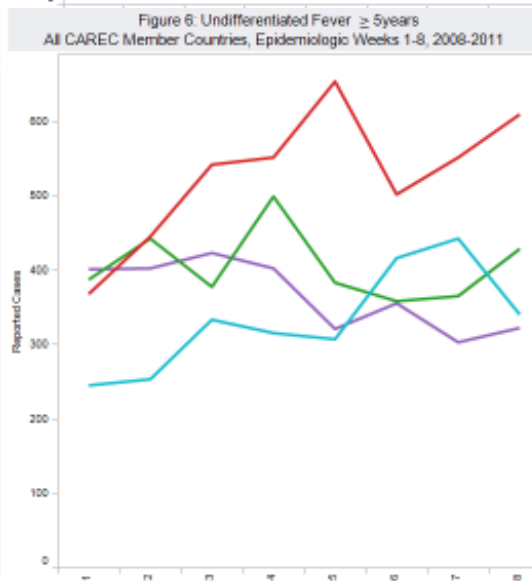
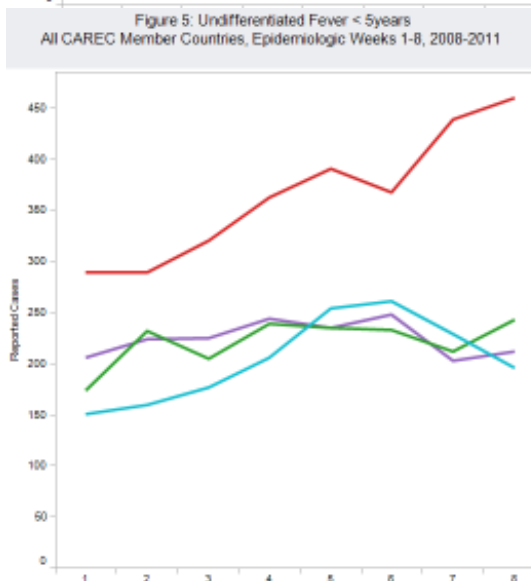
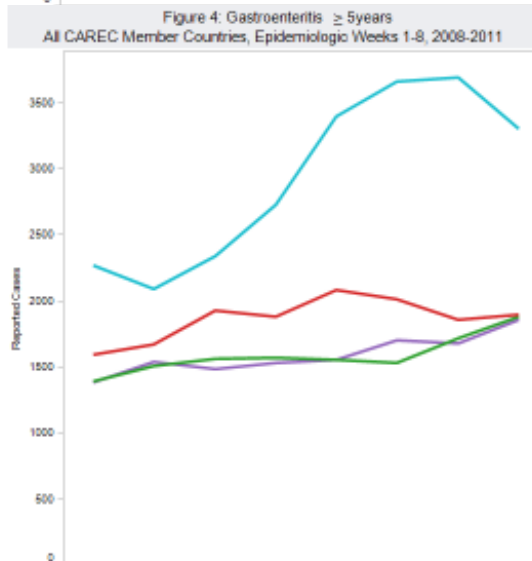
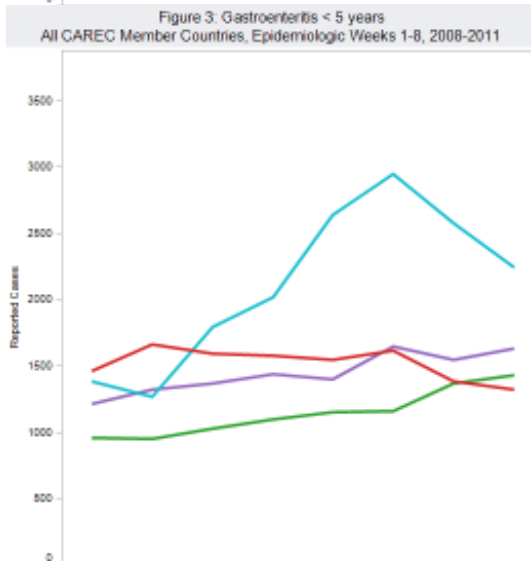
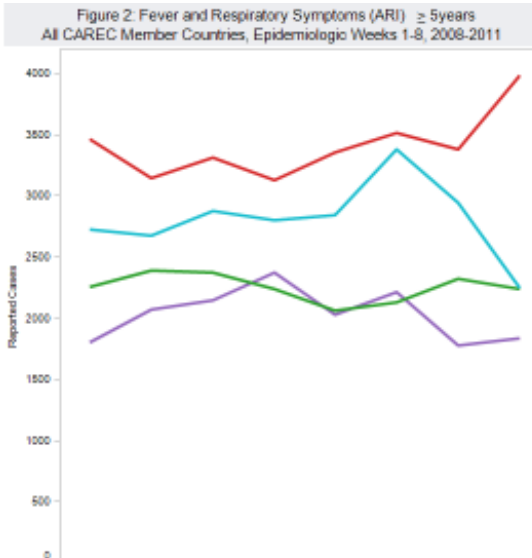
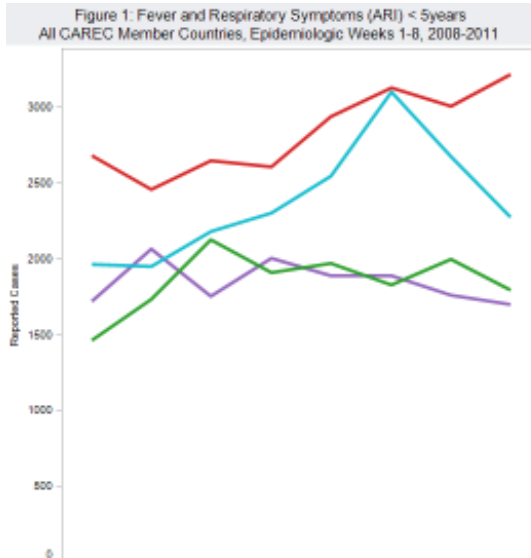
To date in 2011, 185 cases of fever and neurological symptoms have been reported to CAREC [Table 1]. This represents a near fivefold increase over the number of cases reported during the corresponding period in 2010 (39 cases). Of the cases reported during the period under review, 174 (94%) were reported from Jamaica who indicated that the large number of cases in this category is due to inclusion of all suspect meningitis cases from selected hospitals that participate in syndromic surveillance.

Fever and Respiratory Symptoms

During weeks 1-8, 2011, 22,676 cases < 5 years and 27,238 cases \geq 5 years with fever and respiratory symptoms were reported from CAREC member countries [Table 1, Figures 1 and 2]. This represents a 20% increase in cases < 5 years and a 21% increase in cases \geq 5 years, respectively. All but 2 of the CAREC member countries that reported data to CAREC for weeks 1-8, 2011 reported an increase in this category.

Undifferentiated Fever

During weeks 1-8, 2011, 2,914 cases < 5 years and 4,217 cases \geq 5 years with undifferentiated fever were reported from CAREC member countries [Table 1, Figures 5 and 6]. This represents a 79% increase in cases < 5 years and a 59% increase in cases \geq 5 years, respectively, when compared to the number of cases reported weeks 1-8, 2010. Thirteen CAREC member countries that reported data to CAREC for weeks 1-8, 2011 reported an increase in this category. This increase may be due to a continued increase in dengue activity in many CAREC member countries which will be discussed in greater detail later in this report.



year
■ 2011 ■ 2009
■ 2010 ■ 2008

FOOD AND WATER BORNE DISEASES

Ciguatera

To date in 2011, 41 cases of ciguatera poisoning were reported to CAREC which is more than twice the number of cases reported during weeks 1-8, 2010 (17 cases). Cases were reported from Bahamas (15 cases), Antigua and Barbuda (9), Cayman Islands (8), Montserrat (5), and Jamaica (4). Per reports from countries, barracuda was the type of seafood most frequently linked with illness among these cases.

Salmonellosis

During weeks 1-8, 2011, 84 cases of salmonellosis were reported to CAREC. This figure is almost 3 times the number of cases reported during the corresponding period in 2010. The regional increase in cases is primarily due to the large increase in cases reported from Guyana (55 cases) compared to the corresponding period in 2010 (5 cases). Per reports from the Guyana Ministry of Health, most cases were from 1 particular region of the country and the method of laboratory detection is being further investigated.

Shigellosis

During weeks 1-8, 2011, 10 cases of shigellosis were reported to CAREC, which is slightly less than the number reported during the corresponding period in 2010 [Table 2]. Anguilla reported a small cluster of shigellosis cases. *Shigella sonnei* has been the only serotype reported to date in 2011.

AIRBORNE DISEASES

Influenza

During weeks 1-8, 68 cases of influenza were laboratory confirmed (19.8% of all patients tested) [Figure 7]. The influenza strains confirmed include influenza A H3N2 (19 cases), influenza A H1N1 novel strain (17) [Figure 8]. Other types of respiratory viruses confirmed during this period include rhinovirus (6), adenovirus (5), and parainfluenza (6). Enhanced testing for respiratory viruses was initiated at the CAREC Laboratory in early 2011 for selected cases with acute respiratory infection that are negative for influenza.

Figure 7: Percent Positivity for Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses, CAREC Laboratory, Weeks 1-8, 2011

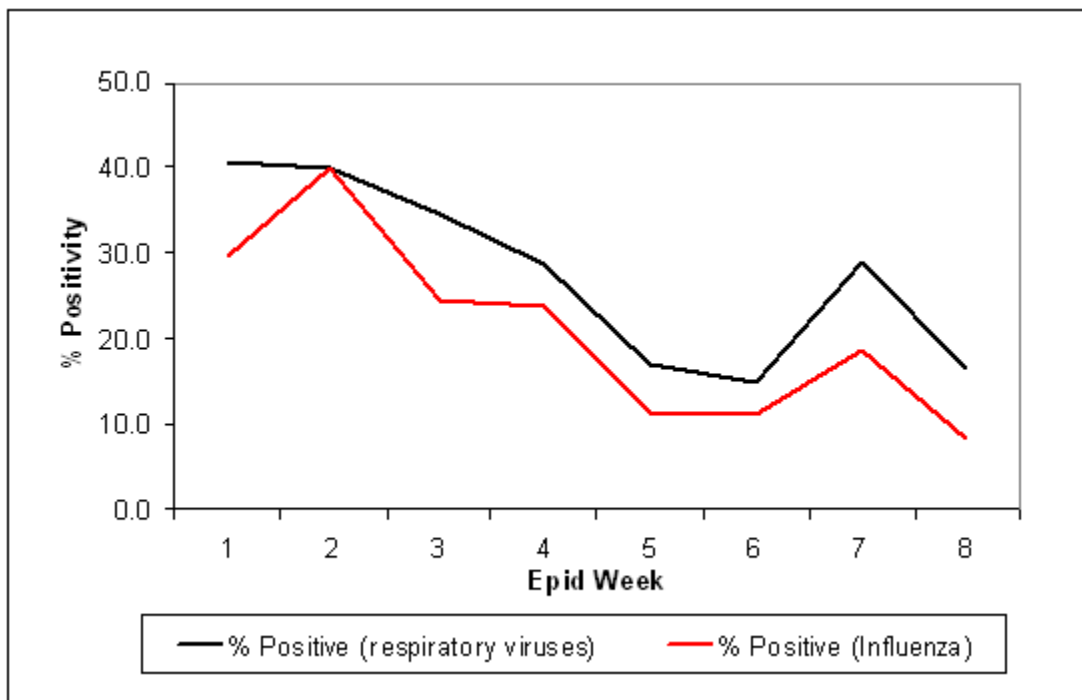
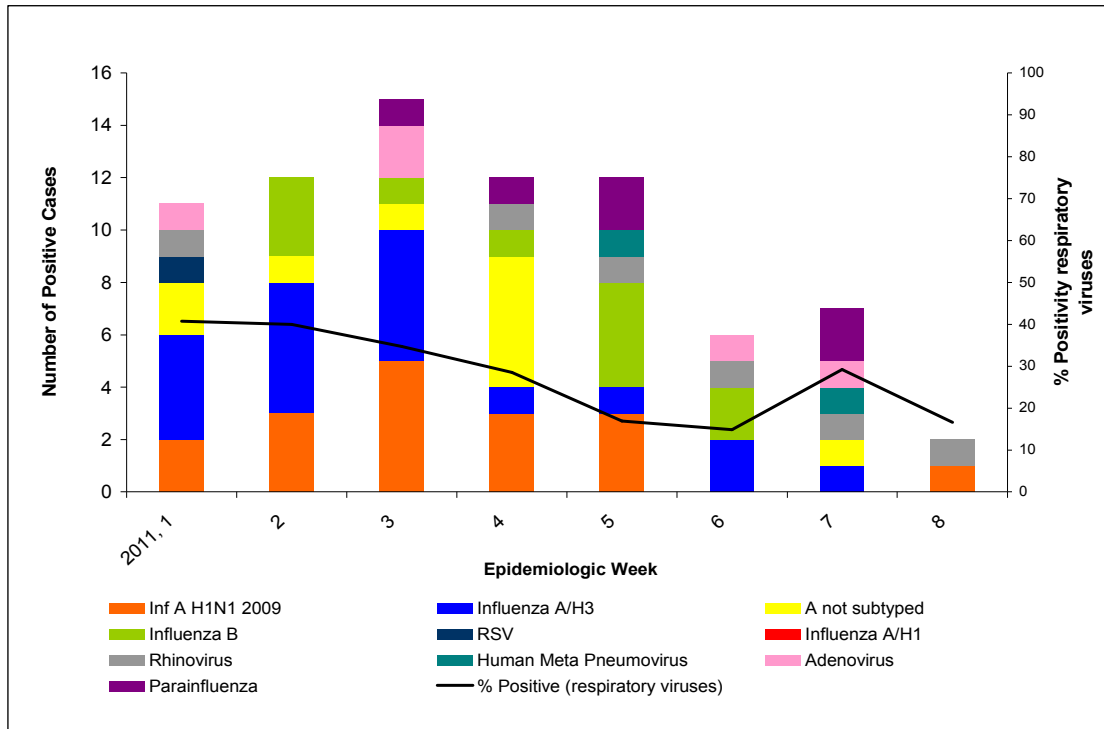


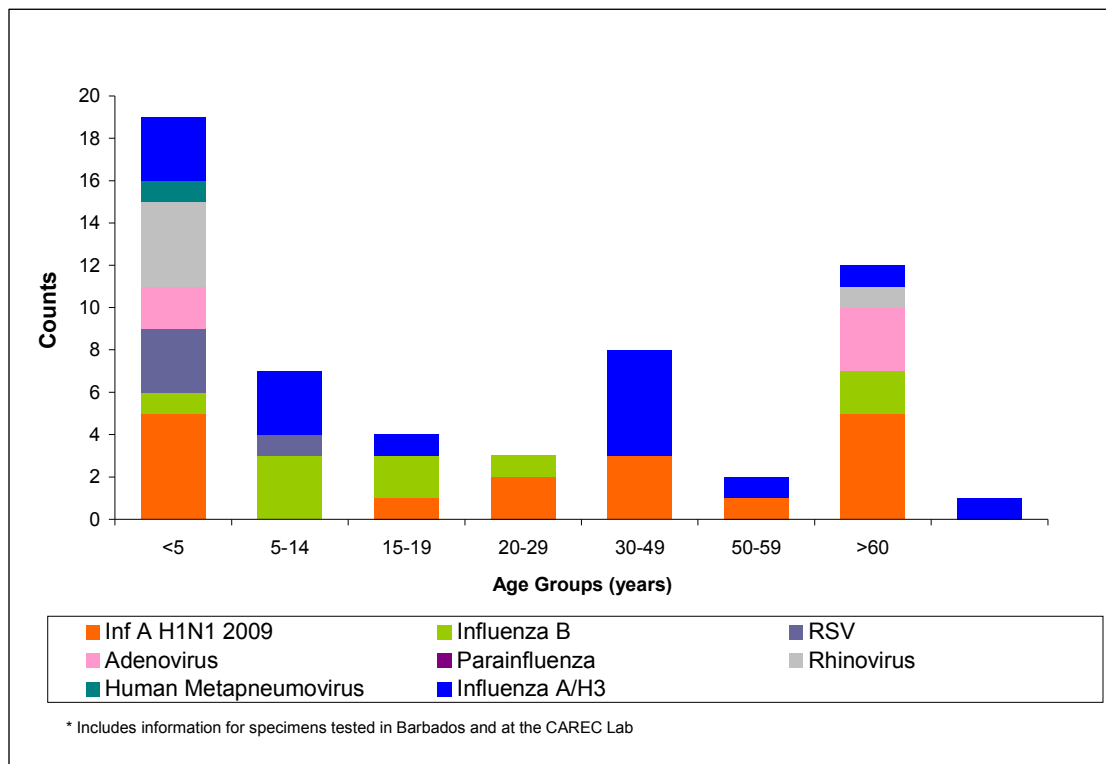
Figure 8: Laboratory Confirmed Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses, CAREC Member Countries, Weeks 1-8, 2011



During weeks 1-8, 2011, 980 cases of influenza-like illness were reported from CAREC member countries which was a large decrease from the number of cases reported during the corresponding period in 2010 (3,083). Only three countries reported an increase in cases in this category compared to the corresponding period in 2010. This trend is in contrast to that noted among weekly visits for fever and respiratory symptoms. The reason for the difference in trends is not immediately apparent and requires further investigation.

During weeks 1-8, 2011, influenza and other respiratory viruses were confirmed in 7 of the 21 (33%) countries that reported data to CAREC. The age category with the highest number of persons with a laboratory confirmed respiratory virus was aged < 5 years (36% of all confirmed cases), followed by >60 years (22%) and 30-49 years (14%) [Figure 9].

Figure 9: Distribution of Laboratory Confirmed Respiratory Illness Cases by Age Group, CAREC Member Countries, Weeks 1-8, 2011



During this period, 167 persons with severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) were reported to CAREC from the 6 countries that participate in enhanced respiratory illness surveillance activities (Barbados, Jamaica, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago). The rate of hospital admission due to SARI for this period was 1.8 per 100 hospital admissions [Figure 10]. There were 3 SARI-related deaths and the rate of death due to SARI was 0.46 per 100 deaths in patients admitted to hospital [Figure 11].

Figure 10: SARI Admissions and SARI Admission Rate per 100 Hospital Admissions from Sentinel Sites in Select CAREC Member Countries, Weeks 1-8, 2011

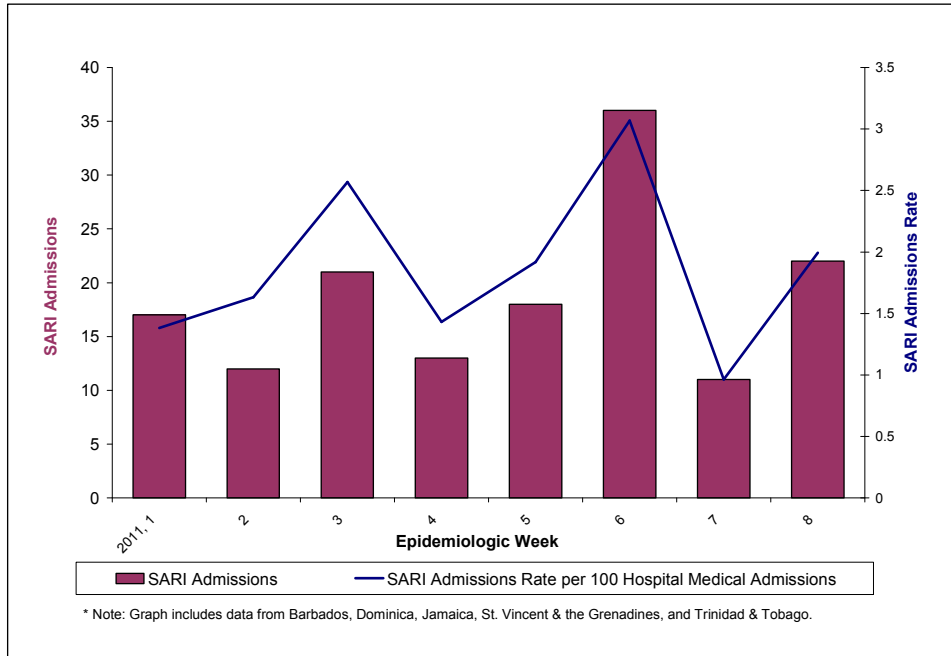
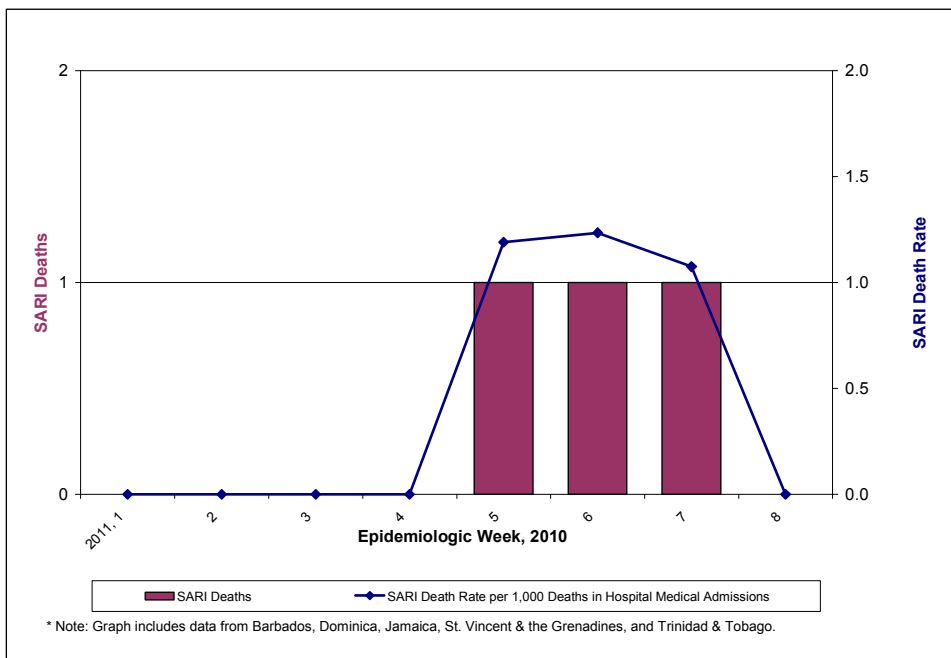


Figure 11: SARI Deaths and SARI Death Rate per 100 Deaths in Hospital from Sentinel Sites in Select CAREC Member Countries, Weeks 1-8, 2011



VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES

Rotavirus

During weeks 1-8, 2011, 26 cases of rotavirus have been reported among CAREC member countries. Of these cases, 21 (81%) were reported from Jamaica who indicated they typically experience an increase in rotavirus during the winter months. Jamaica's rotavirus cases were reported throughout the country and 75% of confirmed cases were less than 5 years old.

VECTOR BORNE DISEASES

Dengue and Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever

During weeks 1-8, 2011, 156 cases of laboratory confirmed dengue were reported from 12 CAREC member countries. While the number of reported cases to date in 2011 is less than that reported during the corresponding period in 2010 (367 cases), 6 countries reported an increase in cases. To date in 2011, 4 cases of dengue haemorrhagic fever were reported from three countries: Belize, Jamaica and Suriname.

Dengue serotype information was available for cases from 3 countries. Dengue serotype 1 was confirmed in Bahamas and St. Lucia while dengue serotype 4 was confirmed in Suriname [Table 3].

Table 3: Dengue Serotypes in CAREC Member Countries, 2011

SEROTYPE	COUNTRIES
1	Bahamas, St. Lucia
2	None
3	None
4	Suriname

Table 1 : Reported Syndromes in CAREC Member Countries (CMCs): Weeks 1 - 8, 2011 and 2010

YEAR	ALL CMCs	CAREC MEMBER COUNTRIES (CMCs)																						
		ANG	ANT	ARU ¹	BAH	BAR	BER	BES	BLZ	BVI	CAY	CUR	DOM	GRE	GUY	JAM	MON	SKN	STL	STM	SUR	SVG	TCI	TNT
Last Wk. Rep. '10		8	8	8	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
2011	Acute Flaccid Paralysis ¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2010		10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2011	Fever and Haemorrhagic Symptoms	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010		8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2011	Fever and Neurological Symptoms	185	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010		39	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2011	Fever and Rash ²	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2010		73	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2011	Fever and Respiratory Symptoms (ARI)	22,676	66	392	376	104	60	3,933	222	844	117	835	2,618	8,045	14	19	255	73	124	289	124	289	4,310	
2010	< 5yrs	16,982	58	350	281	88	32	2,867	69	248	95	730	4,759	5,339	25	16	168	80	75	101	75	101	3,601	
2011	Fever and Respiratory Symptoms (ARI)	27,238	182	498	609	240	709	5,572	303	1,622	137	1,131	4,158	10,725	11	44	274	68	201	527	201	527	227	
2010	≥ 5yrs	22,471	98	301	427	72	661	4,745	95	784	69	613	7,659	6,448	8	25	109	57	48	50	48	50	302	
2011	Gastroenteritis <5 yrs	12,141	17	316	182	156	16	156	582	55	115	73	28	100	1,197	6,922	2	26	312	33	114	44	64	1,631
2010		16,841	10	46	294	105	14	37	556	16	141	138	188	69	5,642	6,051	16	30	156	97	88	114	60	2,964
2011	Gastroenteritis ≥5 yrs	14,894	101	330	488	342	43	177	826	138	194	331	91	170	1,722	5,985	11	122	912	65	83	73	241	
2010		23,458	74	132	682	306	160	175	832	75	399	462	109	9,559	5,992	18	186	278	186	75	216	186	3,168	
2011	Undifferentiated Fever <5yrs	2,914	0	17	0	14	3	203	15	8	41	24	18	212	2,033	0	45	242	13	7	17	2	-	
2010		1,628	0	11	0	8	2	13	5	9	8	25	13	532	804	0	19	125	16	13	0	25	-	
2011	Undifferentiated Fever ≥5yrs	4,217	0	15	1	51	6	326	84	4	162	63	9	950	1,808	4	111	513	16	53	30	1	-	
2010		2,650	0	6	0	15	4	33	61	7	42	21	19	1,606	579	0	47	119	20	64	0	7	-	

Sources: Weekly Syndromic Surveillance Reports submitted to the CAREC Epidemiology Division by April 8, 2011; ¹ Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI)

Notes:
 - = No data received
 § = No Weekly Syndromic Surveillance Reports were received from Aruba for the reporting period.
 * = Data on Fever and Respiratory Symptoms from Curacao, St. Maarten, Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius (2010, 2009) are not provided in an age-categorized format. These data are as follows:
 Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius - Fever and Respiratory Symptoms: 305 (2011), 566 (2010)
 Curacao - Fever and Respiratory Symptoms: 335 (2011), 756 (2010)
 St. Maarten - Fever and Respiratory Symptoms: 420 (2011), 243 (2010)
 Last Wk. Rep. '10 = Last week reported for 2010

Country Codes:
 ANG - Anguilla
 ANT - Antigua and Barbuda
 ARU - Aruba
 BAH - Bahamas
 BAR - Barbados
 BER - Bermuda
 BES - Bonaire, St. Eustatius, Saba
 BLZ - Belize
 BVI - British Virgin Islands
 CAY - Cayman Islands
 CUR - Curacao
 DOM - Dominica
 GRE - Grenada
 GUY - Guyana
 JAM - Jamaica
 MON - Montserrat
 NET - Netherlands Antilles
 SKN - St. Kitts and Nevis
 STL - St. Lucia
 STM - St. Maarten
 SUR - Suriname
 SVG - St. Vincent and the Grenadines
 TCI - Turks and Caicos Islands
 TNT - Trinidad and Tobago

Table 2 : Confirmed Cases of Communicable Diseases in CAREC Member Countries (CMCs): Weeks 1 - 8, 2011 and 2010

YEAR	ALL CMCs											CAREC MEMBER COUNTRIES (CMCs)												
	ANT	ANG	ARU	BAH	BAR	BER	BES	BLZ	BVI	CAY	CUR	DOM	GRE	GUY	JAM	MON	SKN	STL	STM	SUR	SVG	TCI	TNT	
Diseases Reportable under the International Health Regulations																								
During the period under review there were zero (0) cases of Cholera, Plague and Yellow Fever reported to the CAREC Epidemiology Division.																								
Food and Water Borne Diseases																								
Campylobacter																								
2011	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010	0	0	1	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ciguatera Poisoning																								
2011	0	9	0	15	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010	0	3	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E. Coli (pathogenic)																								
2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmonellosis																								
2011	1	0	4	10	5	3	0	2	0	0	1	2	55	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010	1	0	4	0	15	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shigellosis																								
2011	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
During the period under review there were zero (0) cases of Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers reported to the CAREC Epidemiology Division.																								
Air Borne Diseases																								
Influenza-like disease																								
2011	980	0	109	322	14	14	86	369	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	1	63	0	0	0
2010	3,083	0	144	225	2	3	134	0	0	0	1	0	0	7	0	0	2	0	0	8	131	1	2,425	0
Pneumonia [Streptococcus]																								
2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary																								
2011	79	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	36	17	0	0	0	0	10	5	0	0	0
2010	219	0	0	9	1	0	17	2	0	0	0	0	125	24	0	0	0	2	0	34	4	1	0	0
Tuberculosis - Extra-Pulmonary																								
2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
During the period under review there were zero (0) cases of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) reported to the CAREC Epidemiology Division.																								
Source: Communicable Disease 4-Weekly Reports submitted to the CAREC Epidemiology Division by April 8, 2011																								

Notes: - = No data received
 § = No reports were received for the reporting period from Aruba (2011), Barbados (2011), The Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius Islands (2011, 2010), Curacao (2011, 2010), St. Kitts and Nevis (2011), St. Maarten (2011, 2010), The Turks and Caicos Islands (2011) and Trinidad and Tobago (2011)
 Last Wk. Rep. '11 = Last week reported for the reporting period in 2011

Country Codes:	ANG - Anguilla	BAR - Barbados	CAY - Cayman Islands	JAM - Jamaica	STM - St. Maarten
	ANT - Antigua and Barbuda	BER - Bermuda	CUR - Curacao	MON - Montserrat	SUR - Suriname
	ARU - Aruba	BES - Bonaire, St. Eustatius, Saba	DOM - Dominica	NET - Netherlands Antilles	SVG - St. Vincent and the Grenadines
	BAH - Bahamas	BLZ - Belize	GRE - Grenada	SKN - St. Kitts and Nevis	TCI - Turks and Caicos Islands
		BVI - British Virgin Islands	GUY - Guyana	STL - St. Lucia	TNT - Trinidad and Tobago

Table 2 - Confirmed Cases of Communicable Diseases in CAREC Member Countries (CMCs); Weeks 1 - 8, 2011 and 2010

	YEAR		ALL CMCs										TNT ⁴													
	2010	2011	ANG	ANT	ARU ¹	BAH	BAR ²	BER	BES ³	BLZ	BVI	CAY		CUR ¹	DOM	GRE	GUY	JAM	MCN	SKN ³	STL	STM ⁶	SUR	SVG	TCl ¹	TNT ⁴
	Last Wk. Rep. '11										CAREC MEMBER COUNTRIES (CMCs)															
<i>Seasonally Transmitted Infections</i>																										
AIDS/HIV/SITIs are now being reported to the CAREC Epidemiology Division on a yearly basis.																										
<i>Vaccine Preventable Diseases under the Caribbean Expanded Programme on Immunization</i>																										
Chicken Pox (Varicella)	820	0	68	-	24	-	5	-	86	5	6	-	9	0	0	0	41	663	11	-	0	-	0	2	-	-
Mumps	1,309	0	12	2	50	68	7	-	234	1	2	-	6	0	0	40	591	29	23	0	-	0	22	8	214	
Pertussis (Whooping cough)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Rotavirus	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Tetanus [excluding neonatal]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2010	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
During the period under review there were zero (0) cases of Congenital Rubella Syndrome, Diphtheria, Measles, Meningitis due to Hib, Poliomyelitis, Pneumonia due to Haemophilus influenzae, Rubella (German Measles) and Tetanus Neonatorum.																										
Source: Communicable Disease 44 Yearly Reports submitted to the CAREC Epidemiology Division by April 8, 2011																										

Notes:
 - = No data received
 # = No reports were received for the reporting period from Aruba (2011), Barbados (2011), The Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius Islands (2011, 2010), Curacao (2011, 2010), St. Kitts and Nevis (2011), St. Maarten (2011, 2010), The Turks and Caicos Islands (2011) and Trinidad and Tobago (2011)
 / = Imported case
 Last Wk. Rep. '11 = Last week reported for the reporting period in 2011

Country Codes:

ANG - Anguilla	BAR - Barbados	BVI - British Virgin Islands	JAM - Jamaica	STM - St. Maarten
ANT - Antigua and Barbuda	BES - Bonaire, St. Eustatius, Saba	CAY - Cayman Islands	MCN - Montserrat	SUR - Suriname
ARU - Aruba	BLZ - Belize	CUR - Curacao	NET - Netherlands Antilles	SVG - St. Vincent and the Grenadines
BAH - Bahamas	BER - Bermuda	DOM - Dominica	SKN - St. Kitts and Nevis	TCl - Turks and Caicos Islands
	GRE - Grenada	GUY - Guyana	STL - St. Lucia	TNT - Trinidad and Tobago

Table 2 : Confirmed Cases of Communicable Diseases in CAREC Member Countries (CMCs): Weeks 1 - 8, 2011 and 2010

YEAR	ALL CMCs												CAREC MEMBER COUNTRIES (CMCs)											
	ANG	ANT	ARU [§]	BAH	BAR [§]	BER	BES [§]	BLZ	BVI	CAY	CUR [§]	DOM	GRE	GUY	JAM	MON	SKN [§]	STL	STM [§]	SUR	SVG	TCT [§]	TNT [§]	
Last Wk. Rep. '11																								
Vector Borne Diseases																								
Dengue Fever[¶]																								
2011	156	1	0	1	1	0	17	2	0	0	0	1	38	52	0	1	39	0	0	2	1	0	0	
2010	367	0	0	0	0	0	68	0	0	0	0	1	231	35	0	1	0	0	0	15	1	0	0	
Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever[¶]																								
2011	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
2010	14	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
Leptospirosis[¶]																								
2011	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2010	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Malaria (Indigenous)																								
2011	18	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	
2010	4,085	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	3,971	4	0	0	0	0	0	105	0	0	0	
Malaria [Imported]																								
2011	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	
2010	187	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	188	0	0	0	
Other Diseases																								
Leprosy																								
2011	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Viral Encephalitis/Meningitis																								
2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2010	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Meningitis/Encephalitis not specified																								
2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Viral Hepatitis A																								
2011	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2010	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Viral Hepatitis B																								
2011	10	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2010	233	0	0	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

During the period under review there were zero (0) cases of Meningococcal Infection (due to *Neisseria meningitidis*) and Rabies (in humans).
 Source: Communicable Disease 4-Weekly Reports submitted to the CAREC Epidemiology Division by April 8, 2011; Communicable Disease 4-Weekly Reports and the CAREC Laboratory

Notes:
 - = No data received
 § = No reports were received for the reporting period from Antigua (2011), Barbados (2011), The Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius Islands (2011, 2010), Curacao (2011, 2010), St. Kitts and Nevis (2011), St. Maarten (2011, 2010), The Turks and Caicos Islands (2011) and Trinidad and Tobago (2011)
 / = Imported case
 Last Wk. Rep. '11 = Last week reported for the reporting period in 2011

Country Codes:
 ANG - Anguilla
 ANT - Antigua and Barbuda
 ARU - Aruba
 BAH - Bahamas
 BAR - Barbados
 BER - Bermuda
 BES - Bonaire, St. Eustatius, Saba
 BLZ - Belize
 BVI - British Virgin Islands
 CAY - Cayman Islands
 CUR - Curacao
 DOM - Dominica
 GRE - Grenada
 GUY - Guyana
 JAM - Jamaica
 MON - Montserrat
 NET - Netherlands Antilles
 SKN - St. Kitts and Nevis
 STL - St. Lucia
 STM - St. Maarten
 SUR - Suriname
 SVG - St. Vincent and the Grenadines
 TCI - Turks and Caicos Islands
 TNT - Trinidad and Tobago

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ALERT: RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE TRAVELLERS TO PRESERVE THE AMERICAS WITHOUT MEASLES OR RUBELLA (PUBLISHED ON 28 APRIL 2011)

According to data from the World Health Organization (WHO) as of 18 April 2011, a total of 33 countries in Europe have reported more than 6,500 measles cases. Measles outbreaks have been confirmed in countries such as France (>4,900 cases), Belgium, Bulgaria, Spain, Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey.

Due to various cultural and sporting events that will be hosted by countries in the Americas, PAHO urges all travellers visiting any country in the Region to get vaccinated for measles and rubella before arriving in the Americas, in order to reduce the risk of reintroducing these diseases that have already been eliminated in the Americas. In addition, any resident of the Americas planning to travel to other regions of the world should be protected against measles and rubella prior to departing on their trip.

For more information about this recommendation, see the following link:

http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5322&Itemid=2206

PAHO INFLUENZA REGIONAL UPDATE FOR THE AMERICAS: WEEK 18, 2011

Influenza activity in Central America, the Caribbean, the Andean Region and the Southern Cone remained low. Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) has been the predominant respiratory virus circulating in many countries in South America.

EPIDEMIOLOGIC AND VIROLOGIC INFLUENZA UPDATE

In Canada, influenza activity continues to decline; influenza B accounted for a greater proportion than influenza A. In the United States, the ILI activity was below the baseline; there has been a co-circulation of influenza A and B. In Mexico, the predominant circulating respiratory virus has been influenza A/H1N1 2009.

For more information, see the following link:

http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3352&Itemid=2469&to=2246

UPDATE ON THE CHOLERA SITUATION IN HAITI AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (PUBLISHED 20 MAY 2011)

In Haiti, since the beginning of the cholera outbreak, starting epidemiological week (EW) 42 in 2010, until May 10th, 2011, the government of Haiti registered a total of 302,401 cholera cases of which 53.8% (162,651) required hospitalization and 1.7% (5,234) died (global case-fatality rate). Since EW 19 an increase in the number of new hospitalizations is observed in comparison with previous weeks, especially in the South-East and North-West departments and in the capital city, Port-au-Prince. Additionally, Artibonite and Centre continue to report new cases.

Since epidemiological week (EW) 16, 2011, the Dominican Republic's surveillance system is registering an increase in the number of suspected cases of cholera, principally in the peripheral area of Santo Domingo, near the river Ozama and Isabela. The increase of cases in Santo Domingo concurs with a raise in the temperature and frequency of rains, which originated flooding in different areas of Santo Domingo.

For more information, see the following link:

http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5445&Itemid=2206

*The CAREC Surveillance Report (CSR) is available on CAREC's website:
www.carec.org*

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