



WEEK ENDING 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2015

## KEY POINTS

### INFLUENZA AND INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESSES (ILI)

**Summary:** Influenza and non-influenza respiratory virus activity remain low and at inter-seasonal levels.

- ILI presentations to sentinel emergency departments (EDs) and general practitioners (GPs) remain low.
- Routine and sentinel detections of influenza virus remain low, with influenza A/H3N2 constituting the majority of subtyped viruses; influenza A/H1N1 and influenza B continue to co-circulate.
- Non-influenza respiratory virus detections continue to fluctuate at low levels.

### GASTROENTERITIS

- Presentations to sentinel GPs and EDs are consistent with this time period during previous years.
- Norovirus and rotavirus detections decreased.

### VARICELLA AND VIRAL RASHES

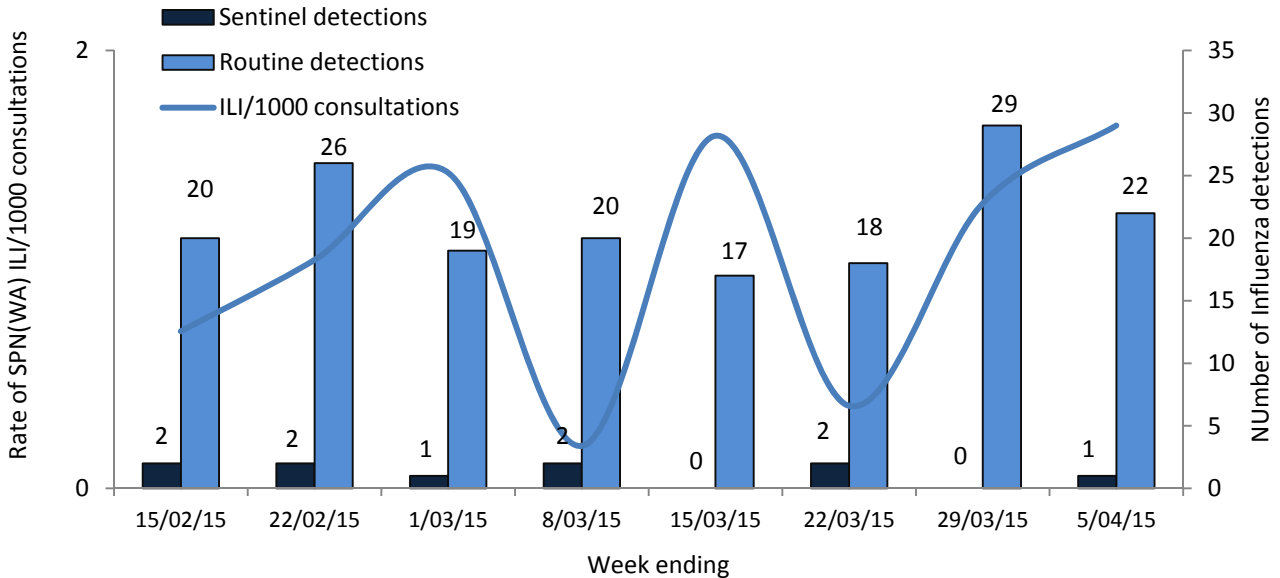
- Shingles presentations to sentinel GPs and EDs remain just above baseline level; shingles presentations to sentinel GPs decreased below baseline level.
- Two cases of mumps in adolescents from the Kimberley were reported.
- No cases of measles or rubella were confirmed this week.

Current and archived issues of Virus Watch [http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/3/487/3/virus\\_watch.pm](http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/3/487/3/virus_watch.pm)

*Virus Watch is a weekly electronic publication by the Communicable Disease Control Directorate (CDCD) and key collaborators. It provides a brief summary of General Practice and Hospital Emergency Department sentinel surveillance data on influenza-like illness, gastroenteritis and varicella-zoster disease, together with relevant laboratory information, to alert health care workers in WA to important circulating viruses. General Practice data are collected by members of the Sentinel Practitioners Network of Western Australia - SPN(WA). Emergency Department data are provided by the Emergency Department Information System (EDIS), which incorporates data from the following hospitals: Fiona Stanley Hospital, Royal Perth Hospital, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, King Edward Memorial Hospital, Bunbury Hospital, Armadale Hospital, Joondalup Health Campus, Swan District Hospital and Rockingham General Hospital. Viral laboratory data are obtained from PathWest laboratories at QEII Medical Centre and Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, as well as via notification data sent by all WA laboratories to CDCD, WA Department of Health. All figures and data were accurate at time of publication, but subject to change.*

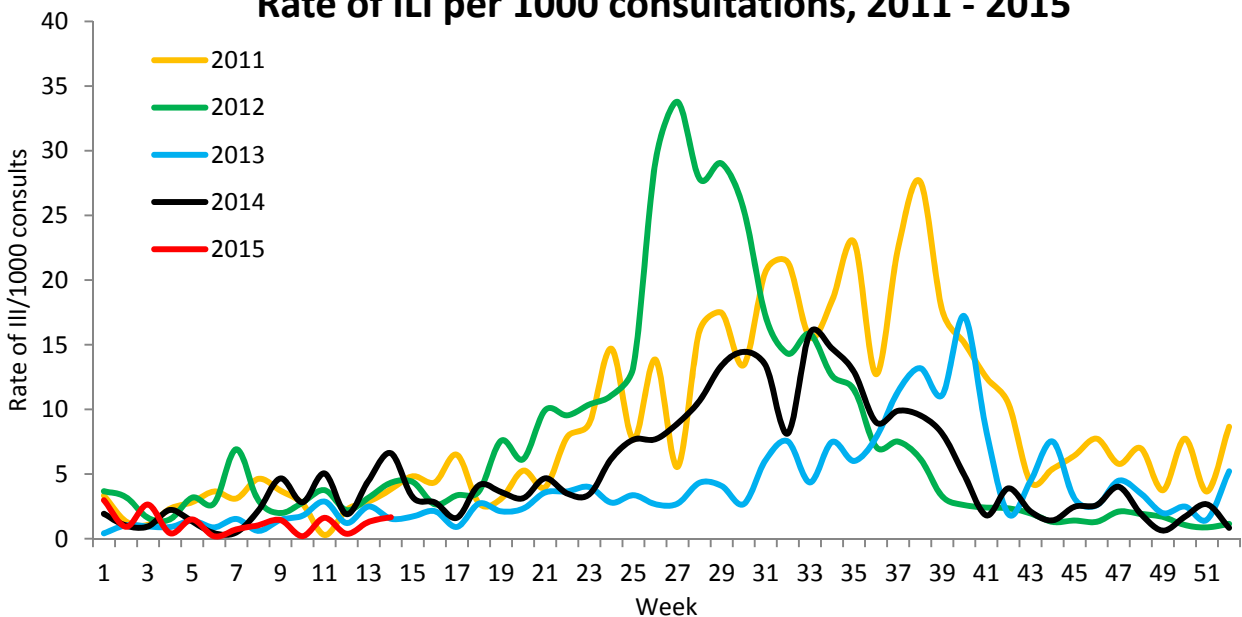
# Influenza and Influenza-like Illnesses

## Sentinel and Routine Influenza and Influenza-like Illness detections



The rate of ILI seen at sentinel GPs and the number of routine detections of influenza virus increased this week. Of 264 routinely collected specimens, 22 (8%) tested positive for influenza virus; 8 specimens were collected at sentinel GP sites, of which 1 (13%) tested positive for influenza virus.

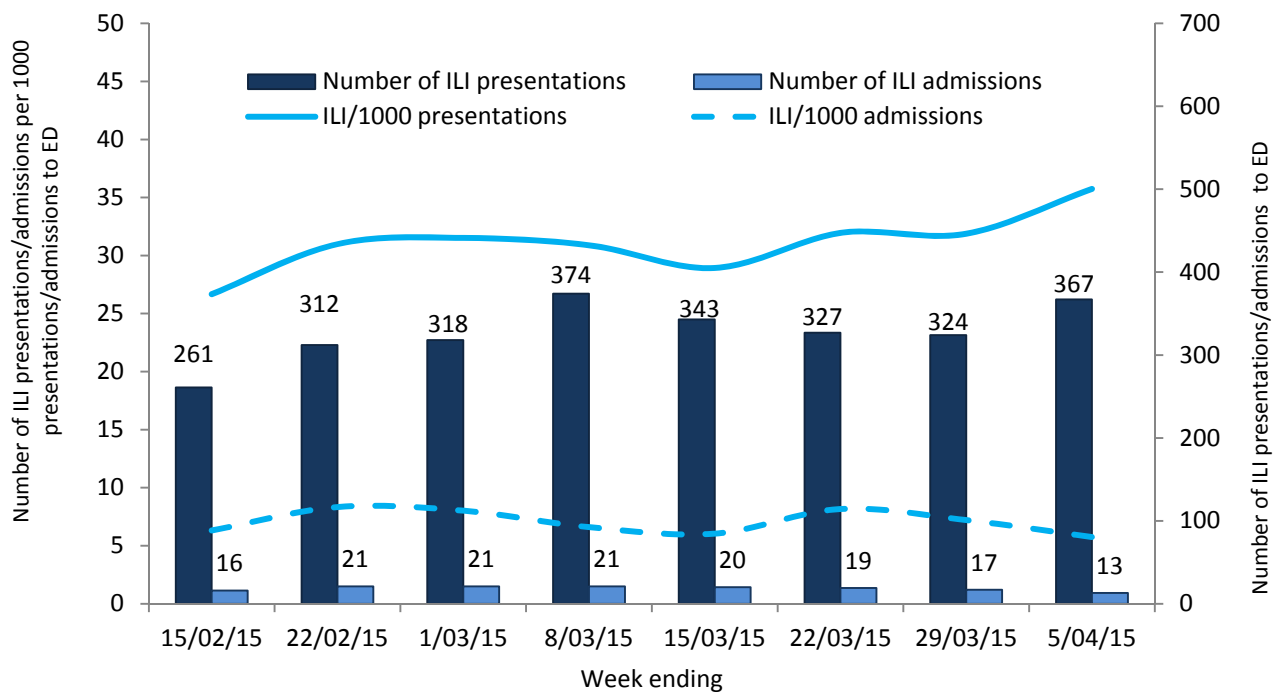
## Sentinel Practitioner Network of WA - GP surveillance Rate of ILI per 1000 consultations, 2011 - 2015



The rate of ILI presentations to SPN(WA) GPs remains low and is consistent with inter-seasonal periods.

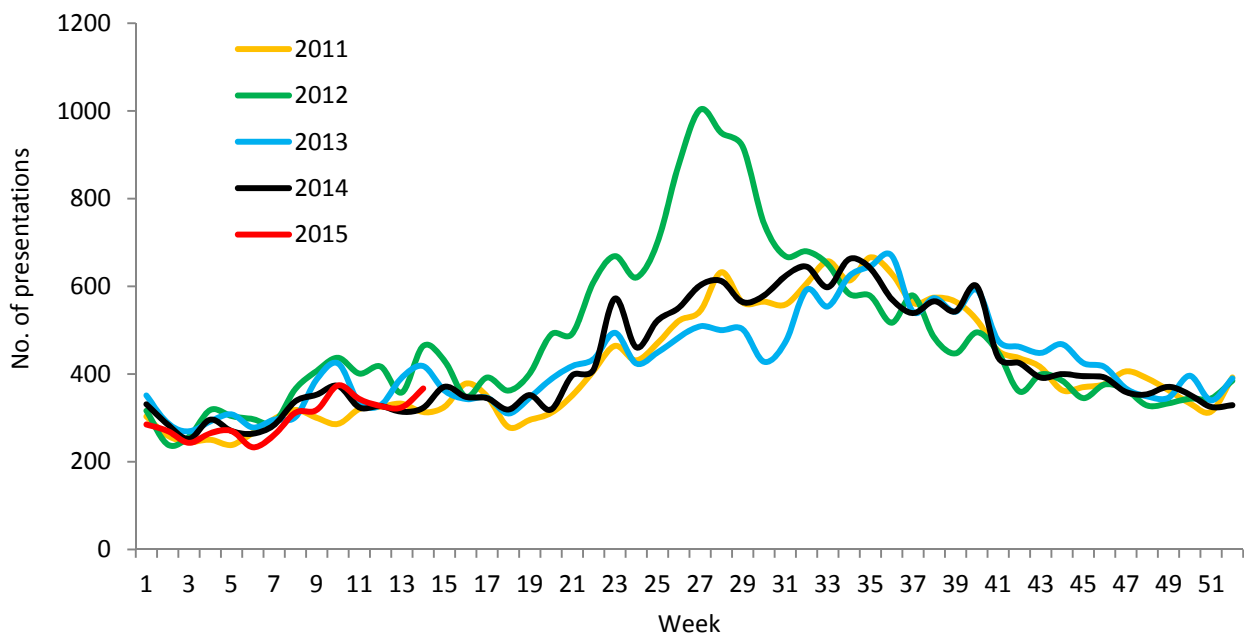
The following is a summary of current Emergency Department sentinel surveillance (EDSS) data for respiratory viral presentations.

### Viral Respiratory ED Presentations and Admissions



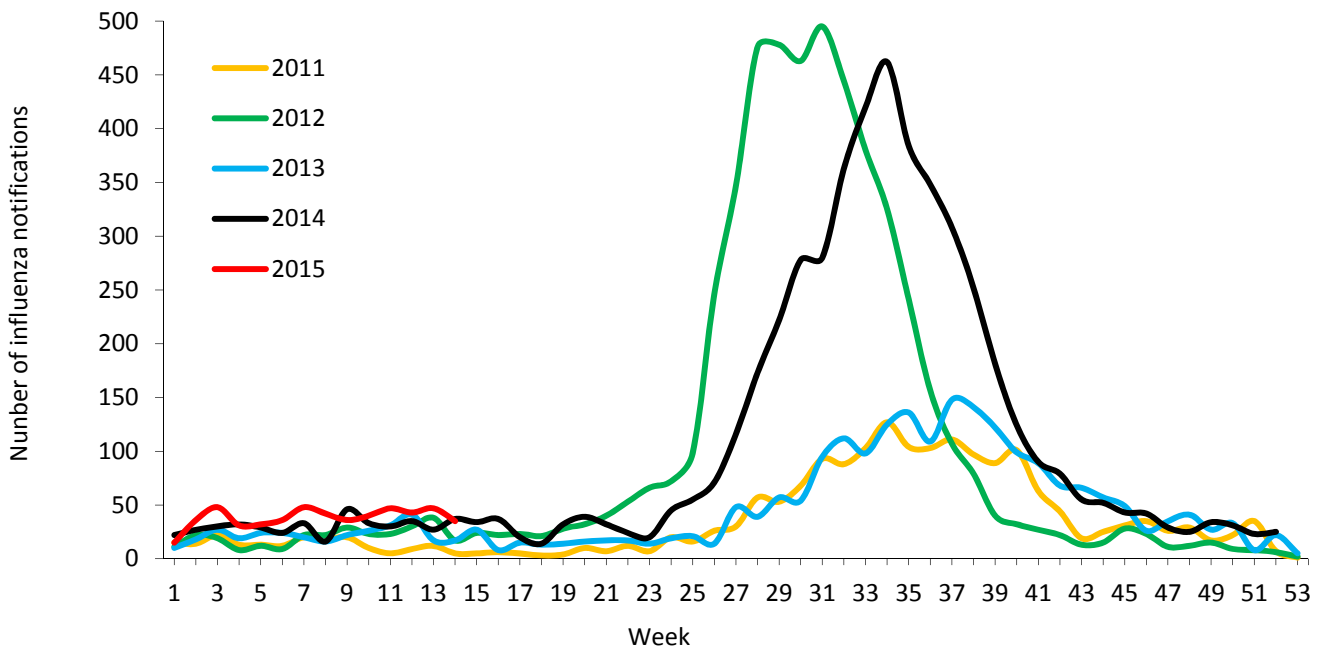
**Presentations for viral respiratory illness to sentinel EDs increased this week; admissions to sentinel EDs declined.**

### ED Respiratory Viral Presentations, 2011 - 2015



**The number of respiratory viral infection presentations to sentinel EDs increased this week, but remains consistent with levels experienced in recent years.**

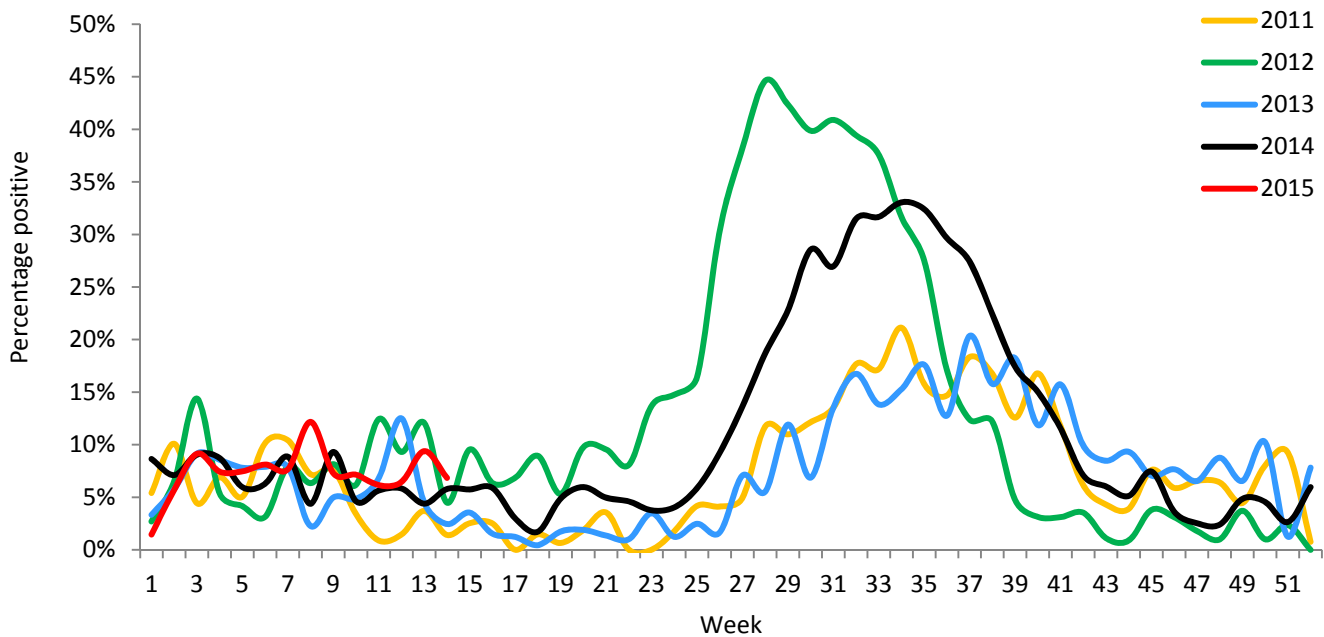
### Influenza notifications in Western Australia by week, 2011 to 2015



**Influenza notifications received by the Department of Health remain consistent with inter-seasonal levels.**

The graph is a summary of all influenza notifications received by the DoH, Western Australia to the end of the current reporting week, for which cases had date of symptom onset or specimen collection between 30/03/2015 and 05/04/2015.

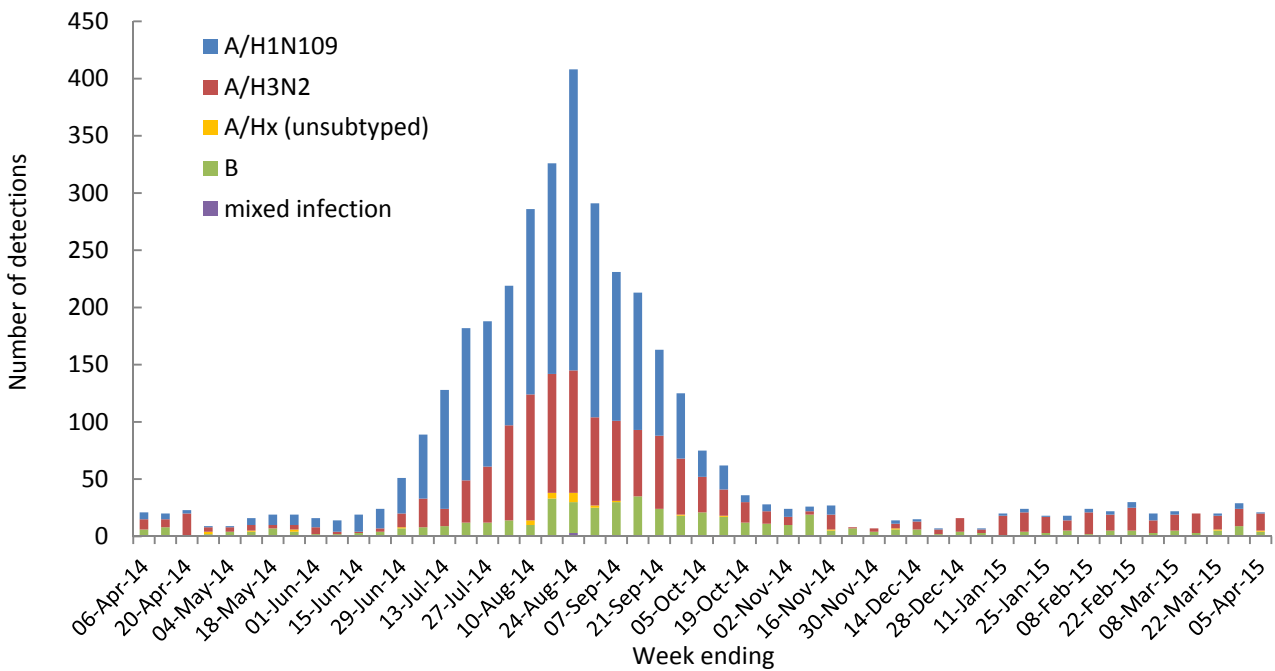
### PathWest-QEII-PMH influenza percentage positive 2011- 2015



**Among samples tested at PathWest this week, 6.8% were positive for influenza virus, which is in the higher range of expected values for this time period in recent years.**



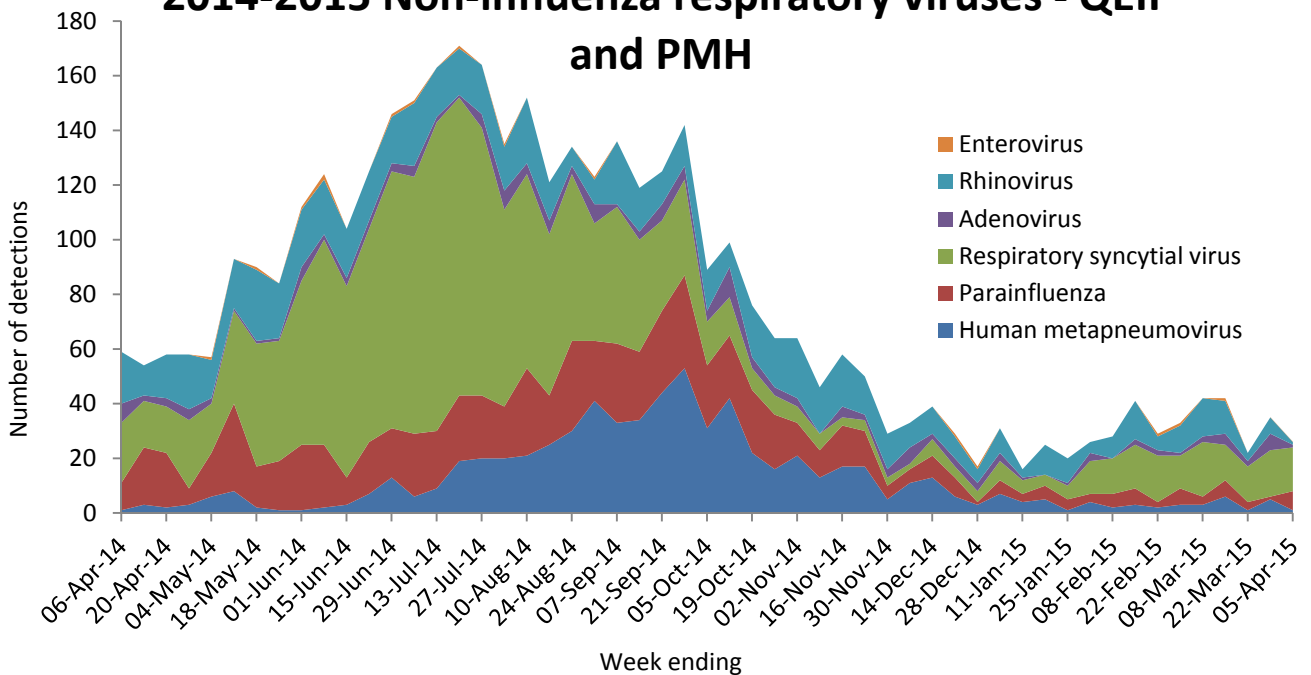
### PathWest-QEII-PMH 2014-2015 all influenza subtypes



**Twenty-one influenza viruses were subtyped by PathWest, QEII and PMH during this reporting week; 15 (71%) were influenza A/H3N2; 1 (5%) was influenza A/H1N1; 1 (5%) was influenza A/unsubtyped; and 4 (19%) were influenza B.**

The graph is a summary of all samples that have been recorded as subtyped at PathWest QEII as of 12.01am Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015. The number subtyped may not always correspond to the number of influenza detections.

### 2014-2015 Non-influenza respiratory viruses - QEII and PMH

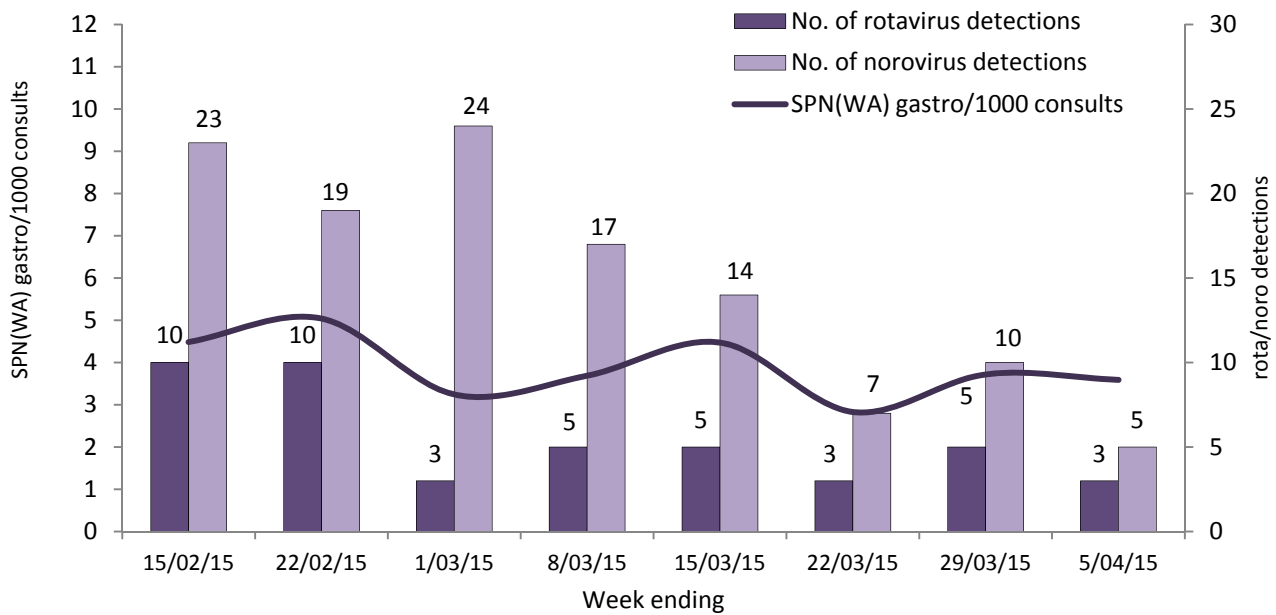


**Non-influenza respiratory virus activity continues to fluctuate at low levels.**



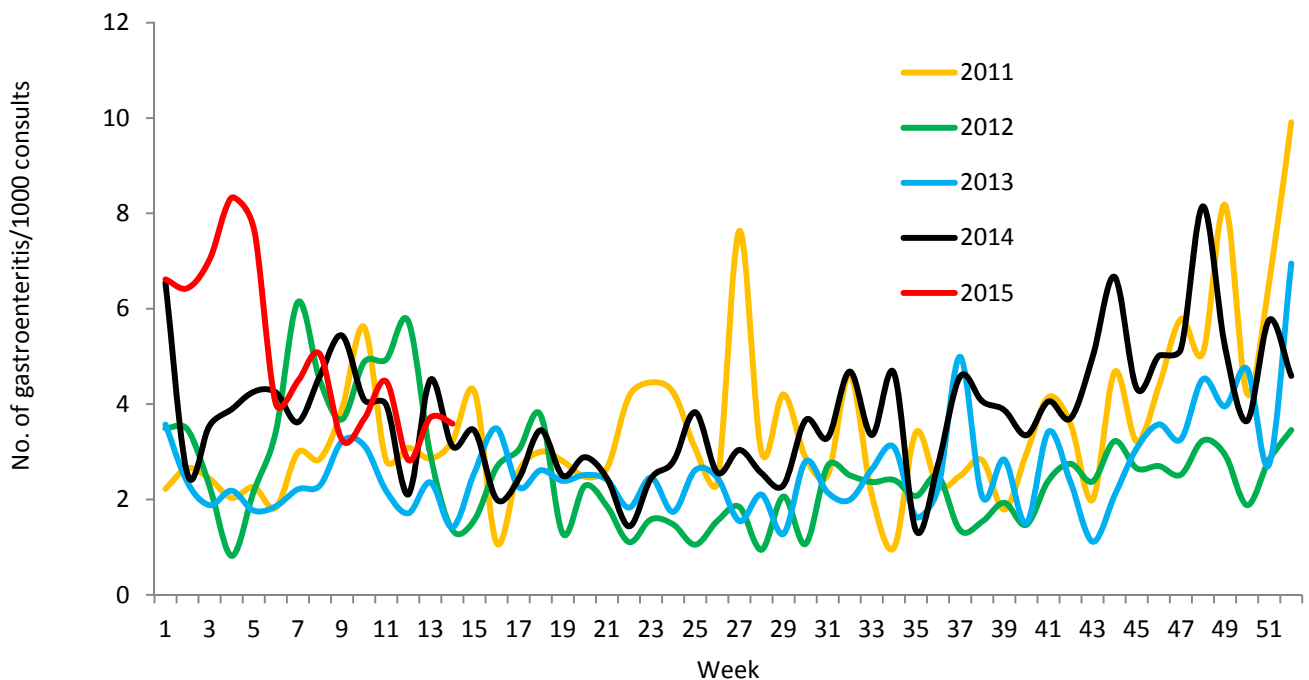
# Gastroenteritis

## Gastroenteritis GP Presentations



Gastroenteritis presentations to SPN(WA) GPs remain between 3-5 per 1,000 consultations this week. Norovirus and rotavirus detections both decreased this week.

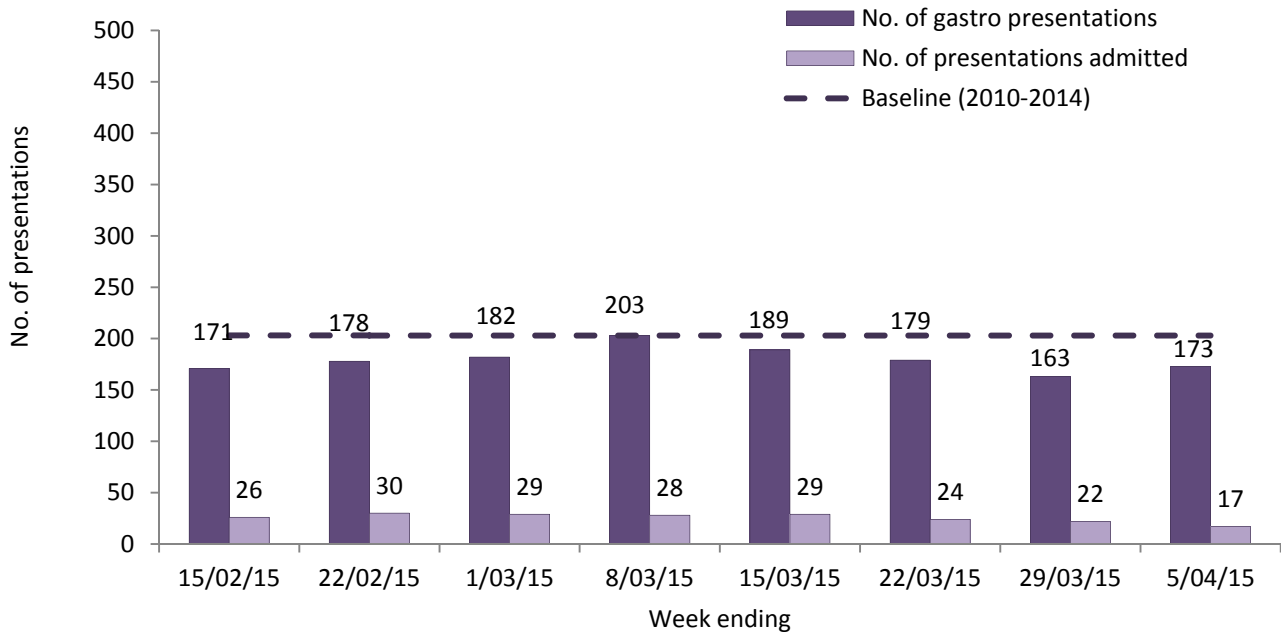
## Sentinel Practitioner's Network of WA SPN(WA) - GP surveillance Rate of gastroenteritis per 1000 consultations, 2011 - 2015



The rate of gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel GPs remains within levels reported during the same time period in recent years.

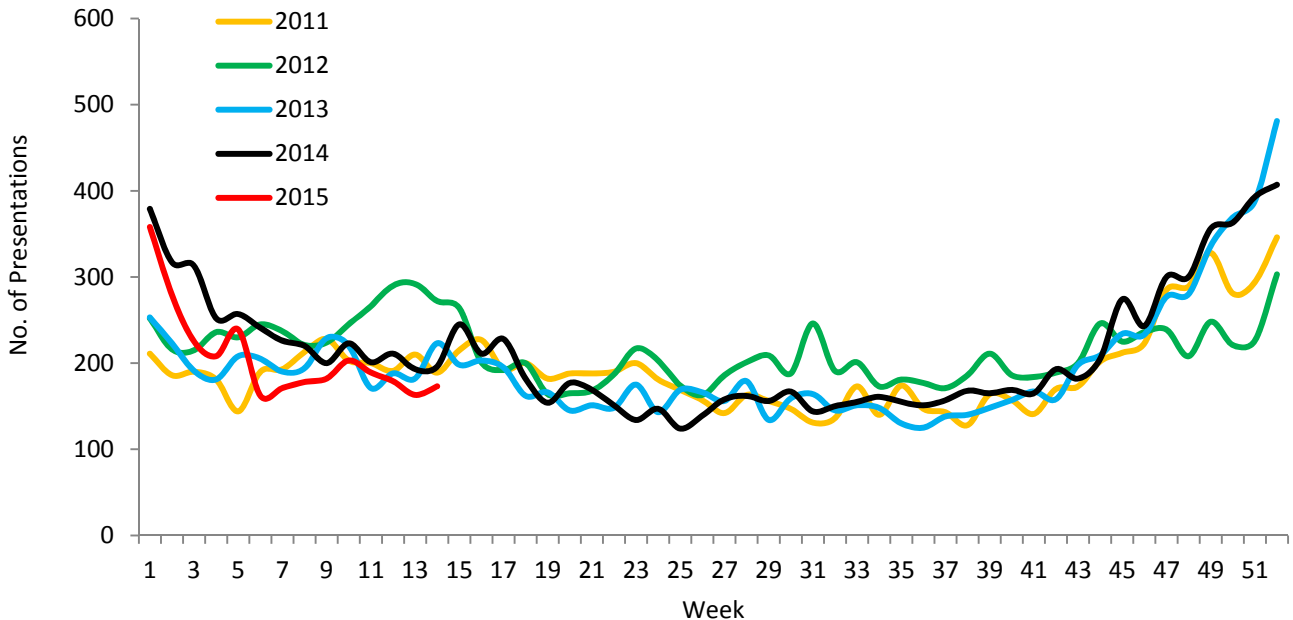
The following is a summary of current Emergency Department Sentinel Surveillance (EDSS) data for gastroenteritis presentations. Baseline levels for gastroenteritis presentations were calculated using the mean of weekly EDIS data from week 1, 2011 to week 52, 2014.

## Gastroenteritis ED Presentations



**Gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel EDs remain below baseline level, and gastroenteritis admissions remain low.**

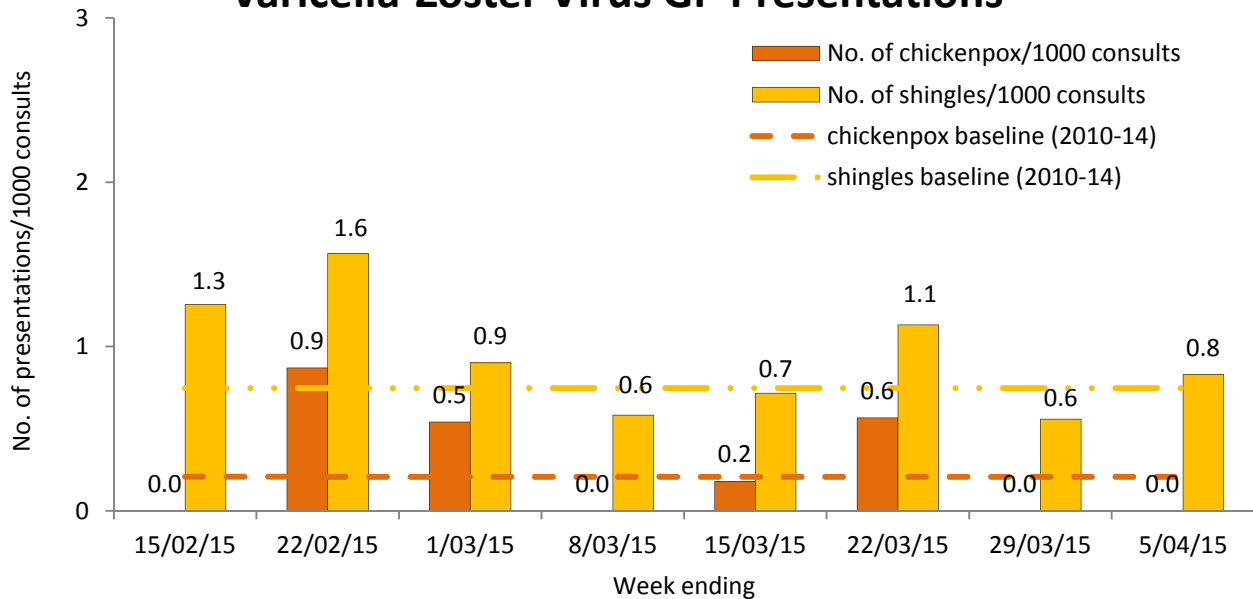
## ED Gastroenteritis Presentations 2011 - 2015



**The number of gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel EDs remains lower than the range of presentations experienced at the same time period in recent years.**

# Viral Rashes

## Varicella-Zoster Virus GP Presentations

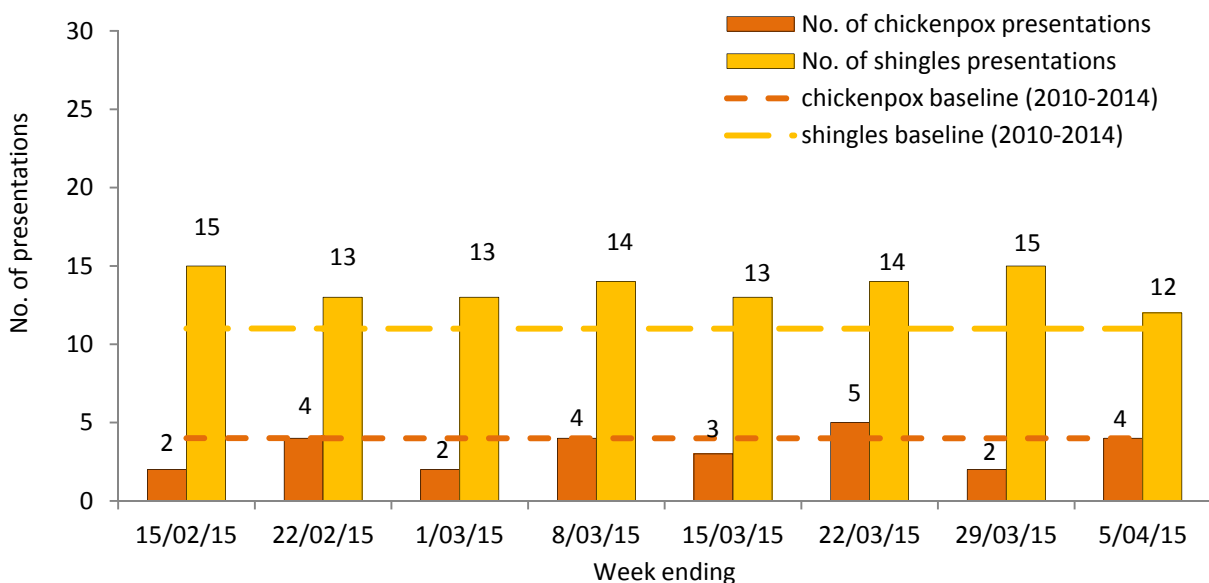


**Shingles presentations to sentinel GPs are near baseline level. No chicken pox cases were seen by sentinel GPs this week. Two cases of mumps were confirmed in adolescents from the Kimberley region. No cases of measles or rubella were reported this week.**

Baseline levels for chickenpox and shingles presentations to SPN(WA) GPs per thousand consultations were calculated using the mean of weekly WA ASPREN data from week 1, 2010 to week 52, 2014.

The following is a summary of current Emergency Department sentinel surveillance (EDSS) data for varicella-zoster virus presentations. Baseline levels for varicella-zoster virus presentations were calculated using the mean of weekly EDIS data from week 1, 2010 to week 52, 2014.

## Varicella-Zoster virus ED Presentations



**Shingles presentations to sentinel EDs remain just above baseline level this week; chickenpox presentations reached baseline level.**