Introduction

Influenza-like illness, commonly called flu, is an acute viral disease of the respiratory tract characterized by fever, headache, myalgia, prostration, coryza, sore throat and even cough. The incubation period is usually 1-3 days.

Influenza-like illness may be clinically indistinguishable from disease caused by acute respiratory viruses, such as common cold, croup, bronchiolitis, viral pneumonia and undifferentiated acute respiratory disease.

Disease transmission is through airborne spread among crowded populations in enclosed spaces wherein the influenza virus may persist for hours, particularly in the cold and in low humidity.

Trend in the Philippines

A total of 33,203 suspect influenza-like illness cases was reported nationwide from January 1 to May 2, 2015. This is 10% higher compared to the same time period last year (30,172).

Fig. 1 Distribution of Suspect Influenza-like Illness Cases by Morbidity Week, Philippines, as of May 2, 2015

*NOTE: Case counts reported here do NOT represent the final number and are subject to change after inclusion of delayed reports and review of cases.
Influenza-like Illness Cases

Fig. 2 Suspect Influenza-like Illness Cases by Morbidity Week, Philippines, as of May 2, 2015
2015* vs 2014 (N=33,203)

![Graph showing Morbidity Week and Case Fatality Rate from 2015 and 2014]

Geographic Distribution

Most of the cases were from the following regions: Region XII (25%), Region IV-A (16.3%), Region X (13.6%), CAR (11%), and Region XI (10.1%).

Fig. 3 Suspect Influenza-like Illness Cases by Region Philippines, 2015 vs 2014*

![Graph showing Number of Cases by Region for 2014 and 2015]

*NOTE: Case counts reported here do NOT represent the final number and are subject to change after inclusion of delayed reports and review of cases.
Influenza-like Illness Cases

Region | Cases
-------|-------
01     | 1833  
02     | 698   
03     | 823   
04     | 5417  
05     | 437   
06     | 9     
07     | 76    
08     | 176   
09     | 818   
10     | 350   
11     | 4507  
12     | 1947  
13     | 8036  
ARMM   | 279   
CAR    | 9651  
CAG    | 2039  
NCR    | 285   
TOTAL  | 53203

Legend:
1 DOT = 10 Cases

Influenza-like Illness Deaths as of MW17

Region | Deaths
-------|-------
01     | 0     
02     | 0     
03     | 0     
04     | 0     
05     | 0     
06     | 0     
07     | 0     
08     | 0     
09     | 0     
10     | 2     
11     | 0     
12     | 0     
ARMM   | 0     
CAR    | 0     
CAG    | 0     
NCR    | 2     
TOTAL  | 17    

Legend:
1 DOT = 1 Death
**Influenza-like Illness Cases**

**Profile of Cases**

Ages of cases ranged from less than 1 month to 98 years old (median = 5 years). Majority of cases were male (51.1%). Most of the cases belonged to the 1 to 4 years age group (31.4%) (Fig. 2). There were 17 deaths (CFR=0.05%).

**Fig. 4** Suspect Influenza-like Illness Cases by Age Group and Sex

Philippines, as of May 2, 2015 (N=33,203)

**Fig. 5** Suspect Influenza-like Illness Case Fatality Rate (CFR) by Age Group, Philippines, as of May 2, 2015

**Fig. 6** Weekly Distribution of Influenza Type

Philippines, as of May 2, 2015

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### Table 1. Influenza-like Illness Cases & Deaths by Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Cases 2015</th>
<th>Cases 2014</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>Deaths 2015</th>
<th>CFR (%)</th>
<th>Deaths 2014</th>
<th>CFR (%)</th>
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### Table 2. Weekly Influenza-like Illness Summary Report by Region

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<th>17th Morbidity Week</th>
<th>Cumulative Total</th>
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<td>17</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>1393</td>
<td>1153</td>
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**Influenza-like Illness Cases**

**Morbidity Week 17: April 26 - May 2, 2015**

**Epidemiology Bureau**

**Public Health Surveillance and Informatics Division**

**Prevention**
- Give influenza vaccination preferably annually.
- Minimize contact with a person who has influenza.
- Avoid crowded places.
- Distance yourself by at least 1 meter from people who are coughing or have influenza.
- Cover mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing to prevent spread of the virus.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water.

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