

Glen Abbot Ltd.

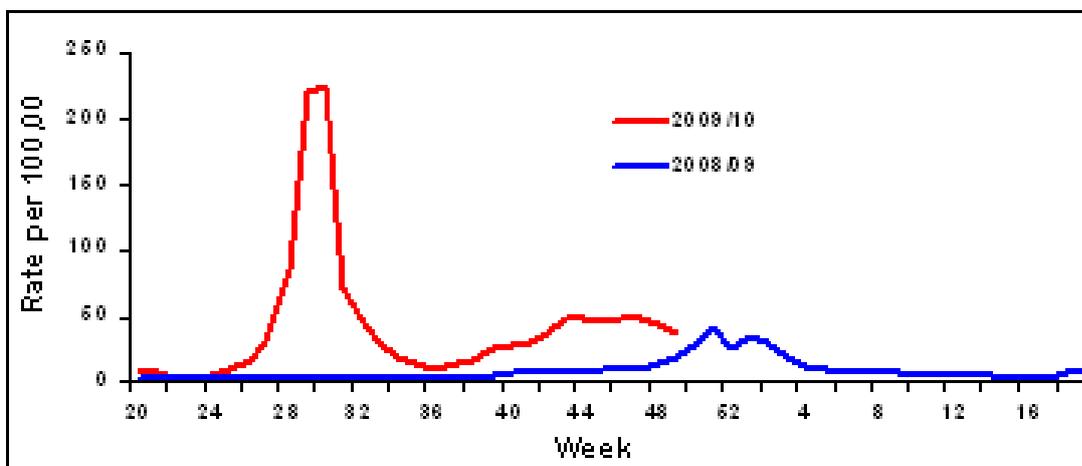
Swine Flu Briefing 47 – 13/12/2009

Author: David Hutcheson MBCI, Managing Director of Glen Abbot Ltd.
David.hutcheson@glenabbot.co.uk

Current Situation:

In England this week it is estimated that there were 11,000 new cases down from 22,000 last week. That really is a significant fall and is not far above the normal flu levels for this time of winter.

Weekly consultation rate for flu-like illness in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (all ages)



In Scotland last week the number of cases was 8,900 a considerable decline from the 12,300 the previous week.

In Europe and the USA the levels are also falling or are stable in most areas.

There is some evidence increase in the Far East and also H1N1 is circulating in Africa.

So is that is? Are we past the worst and there will not be a problem? Well it does look promising, the next three weeks will be make or break for the pandemic this time around. The weather has turned cold which helps the virus and many people will be together over the Festive Season. If there is no rise through that period then it may be next year before we see the next wave.

Glen Abbot Ltd

Quayside House
Friarton Road, Perth PH2 8BB
Telephone: 08450 531537
Email:enquiries@glenabbot.co.uk
Website: www.glenabbot.co.uk

Company Registration No. 3569363 VAT No. 699 8562 44

Tamiflu for Seasonal Flu?

Should Tamiflu be used for those who catch seasonal flu? The WHO say it should not.

The WHO on Friday endorsed findings that there is no clear evidence that Tamiflu prevents complications such as pneumonia in otherwise healthy people with seasonal flu. But the WHO continues to recommend that Tamiflu be used for anyone infected with H1N1 virus who are at high risk of complications.

Vaccines

Well the signs may be that H1N1 is declining, but what is it like to get the vaccine? As some of you who have been with me since the start will know I make great efforts to get the best information so this week I will get my H1N1 vaccination. Most of you probably know that I have had leukaemia for a number of years so I fall into a high risk group and I got my letter this week.

I will give you the full story next week.....

It is interesting how poor the take up of vaccine has been. Sir Liam Donaldson said:

"The uptake had been influenced by the disgraceful junk science that was thrown at the MMR jab. The legacy of that is potentially putting lives at risk."

Also on the same subject it has been confirmed that even the under fives only need one dose of the vaccine rather than the two that was first thought.

Under the mistletoe....

As the Festive season approaches the promise (or threat!) of kisses under the mistletoe must be considered in the light of H1N1. There can only be one source for advice on such a delicate subject, Debretts.....

The Daily Telegraph had the following quote:

"Because of the spread of swine flu this year, people have started to think they might not jump under the mistletoe quite as readily this season," said Debrett's etiquette adviser, Jo Bryant, said:

"But it's medically proven that a peck on the cheek is much more hygienic than a handshake. "People carry billions more germs on their hands so 'cheek-to-cheek' kissing is a healthier greeting by far."

"If you are going to kiss under the mistletoe this year, people should remember others may not want your lurgy over Christmas just for the sake of a peck."

Mistletoe suppliers are concerned that sales may be affected.....

Don't say I don't cover all the risks you must assess in these briefings....!

Past Briefings

All previous briefings are available at our website: www.glenabbot.co.uk

Training and Consultancy

We provide specific pandemic training courses both publicly and bespoke to companies. If you are interested please contact me directly or email Geoff Howard at Continuity Shop (gHoward@continuityshop.com). We can also help organisation review or create plans so if you need any assistance please contact me via this email or Andrew Sinclair on Andrew.sinclair@glenabbot.co.uk. Our office number is 01738 580580.



David Hutcheson
Managing Director
M: 07775 793858 T: 01738 580580 E: david.hutcheson@glenabbot.co.uk

Glen Abbot Ltd

Quayside House
Friarton Road, Perth PH2 8BB
Telephone: 08450 531537
Email: enquiries@glenabbot.co.uk
Website: www.glenabbot.co.uk

Company Registration No. 3569363 VAT No. 699 8562 44