Glen Abbot Ltd. Swine Flu Briefing 50 – 03/01/2010

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Happy New Year!

To all of you who have been with me through the pandemic outbreak, can I wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

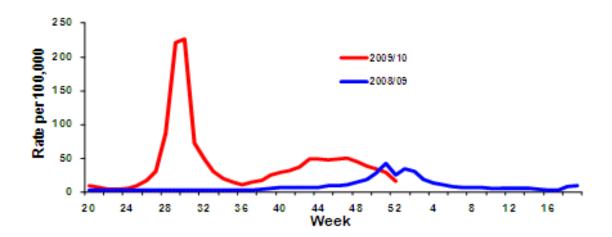
As we reach bulletin 50 I think, as I said last week, that it is a reasonable time to stop the weekly updates. Should things change at any point I will, of course, reinstate the bulletins.

Many thanks to all of you who have been in touch with me with questions, comments, disagreement and the like. If you do have anything that interests you on pandemics and would like to discuss it please do contact me.

Current Situation:

In England this week the numbers are not quite as clear as usual but from what I can gather they are close to half of the previous week.

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



In Scotland last week the number of cases were 7,240 an increase of some 14.7% on the previous week. This may be for weather and holiday reasons.

In China there are reports of considerable Government concern that H1N1 is spreading into the countryside and that there will still be problems there, especially as the vaccine has not been administered in these regions.

And some of the madness...

There was no doubt that H1N1 gave strength to many daft and in some cases inexplicable ideas. Some of the best were:

The Japanese suit that prevented swine flu, the Russian soccer fans who were instructed to drink whisky on a trip to Wales for a World Cup qualifier match to ward off the H1N1 virus (one of the better plans!) and the Italy inventor who devised an electronic holy water dispenser.....

And as to the blogger who told the world that you would die five minutes after you received your flu jab? I'm glad to say you were very, very wrong as this briefing proves!

And is it over?

The numbers suggest we have past the worst for this year's flu season. So is that it for this pandemic? Well who can say for sure. I still believe we have not seen the last of it, a mutation will come sooner or later.

But that said, we have been fortunate and let's all hope it stays that way!

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.

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