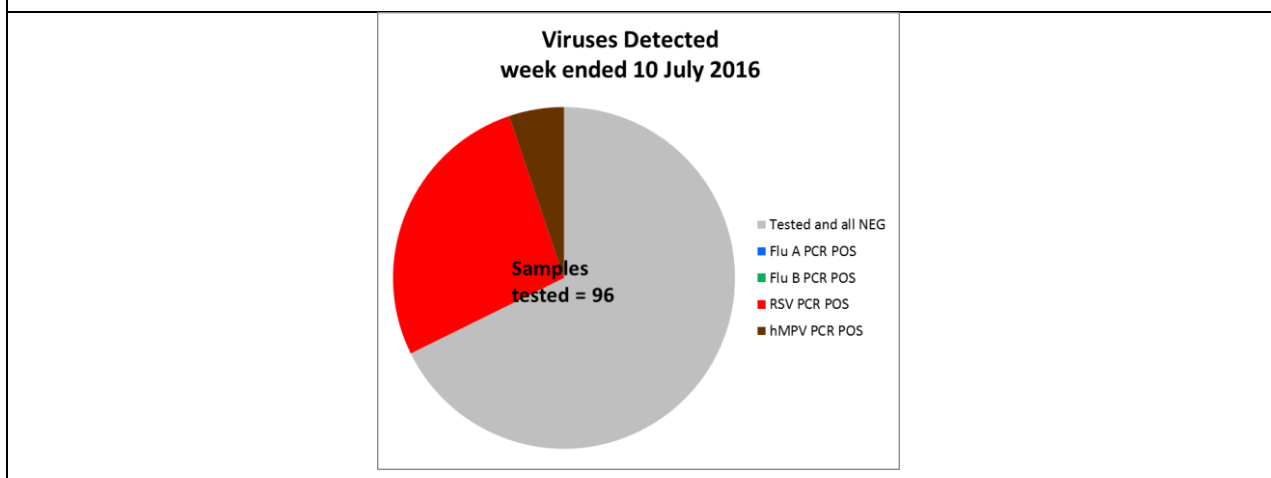
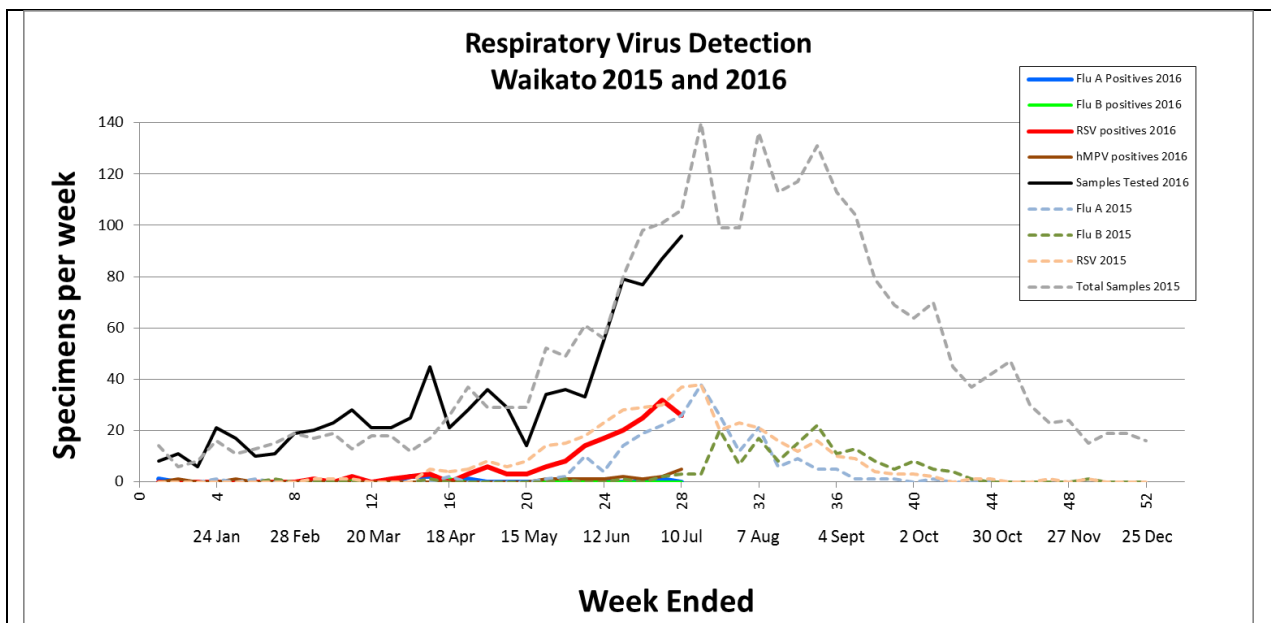


Waikato Respiratory Virus Report
 Week to 10 July 2016

Week 28 2016

RSV is tracking similar to last year and is probably around peak levels now. A few cases of Influenza have been seen in the Waikato community and Bay of Plenty but there were none among the 96 samples we tested last week. National data shows that Rhinovirus is also common at present, with similar numbers to RSV, but we do not routinely test for it at Waikato Hospital.

The overall quality of specimens people are sending in is excellent. Nasopharyngeal swabs (NPS) are the preferred specimen, because these give a lot more material than the low nose swabs used in the past in paediatrics. The flexible blue wire swab should be used for NPS. Collection instructions and photos of the swab types are available at: <http://lab.waikatodhb.health.nz/collection-guides/>. Unfortunately, we can't give reliable results from throat swabs either, so we are not testing these for viruses.



Waikato Hospital laboratory web site: <http://lab.waikatodhb.health.nz/>

ESR Respiratory virus surveillance: https://surv.esr.cri.nz/virology/influenza_weekly_update.php