



Update: Influenza Outbreaks and Vaccination in Lebanon

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7th Mena Influenza Stakeholders Meeting

Organized by Fondation Mérieux

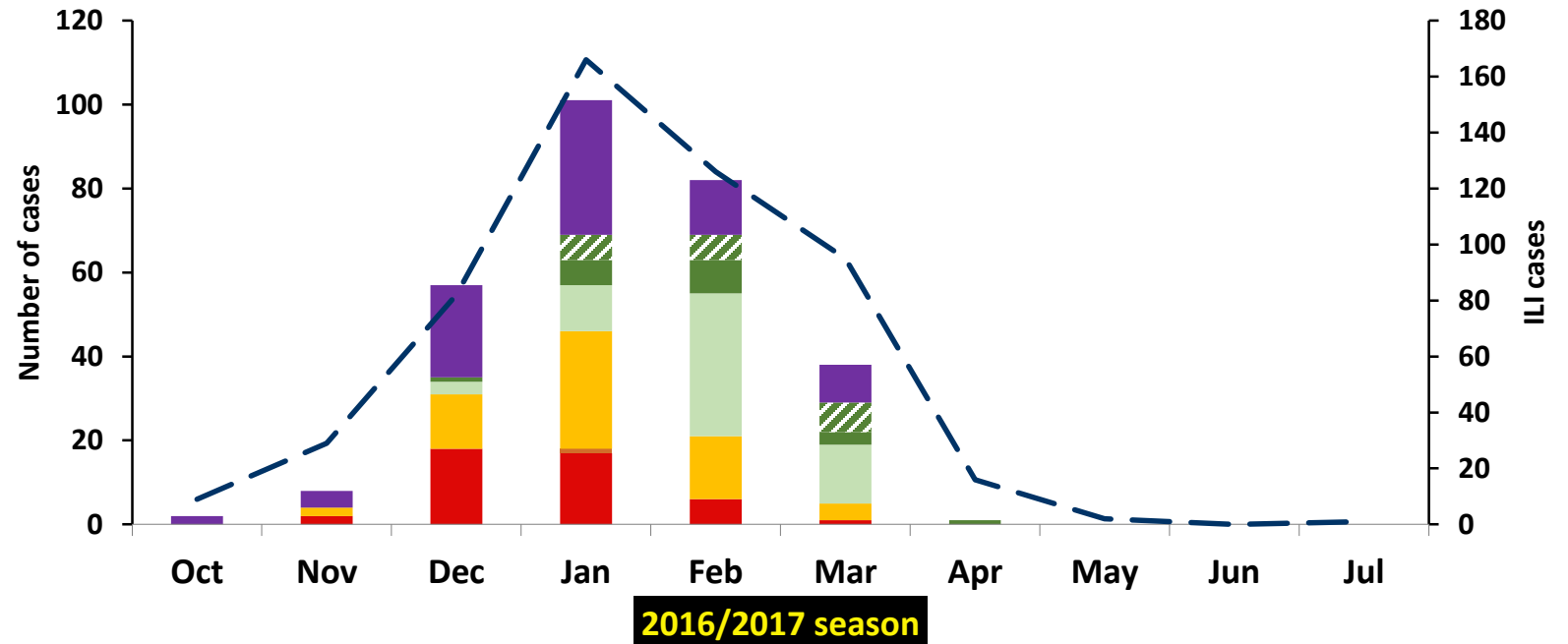
Riga, Latvia

9-10 September 2017



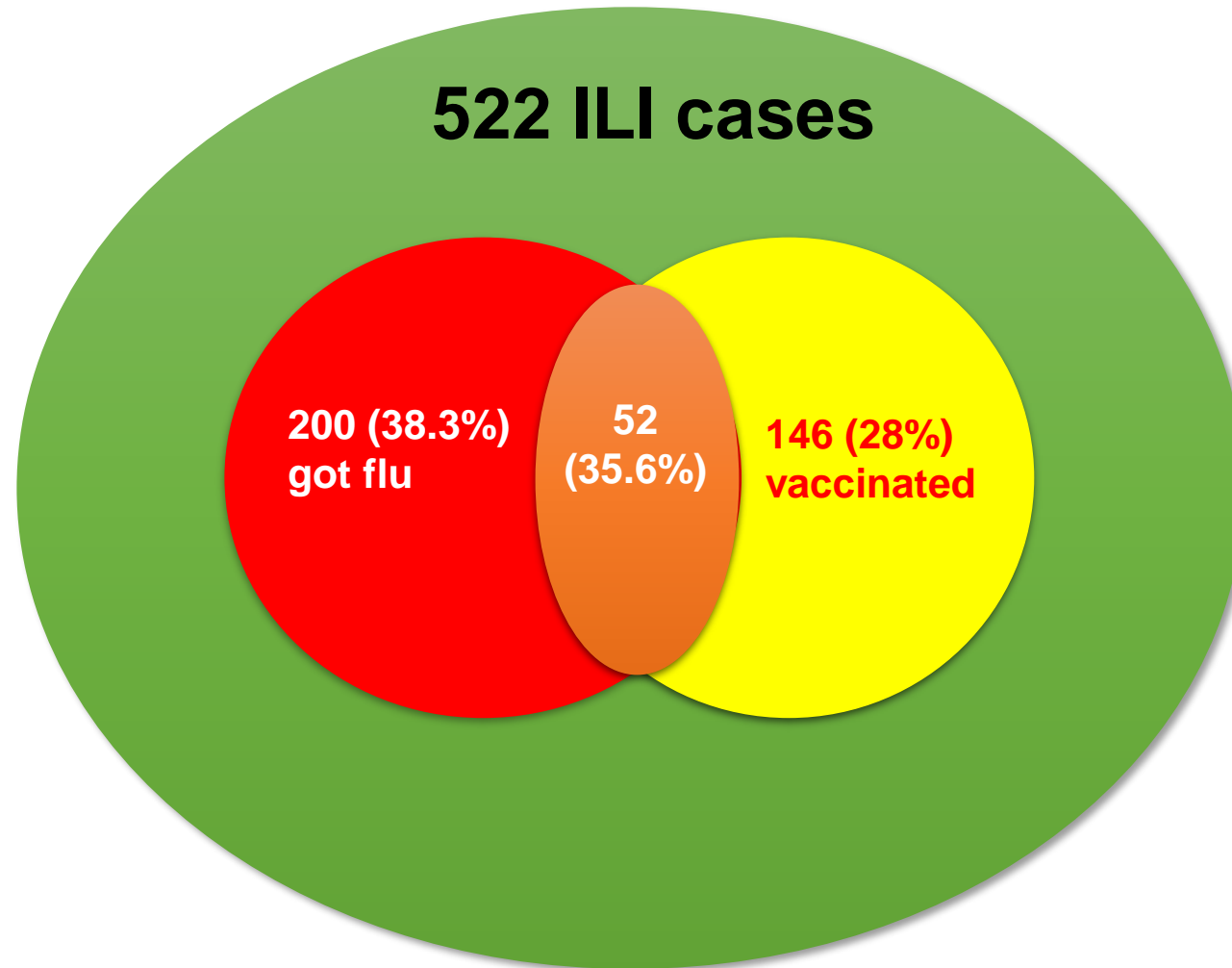
Influenza and RSV activity during the 2016-17 season

525 ILI		
518 analyzed		
106 Flu A	102 Flu B	82 RSV
44 H3N2	62 B/Yam	
1 H1N1	20 B/Vic	
61 unsub.	21 unsub.	



- A/H3N2
- A/H1N1pdm09
- FluA unsubtypable
- B/Yamagata
- B/Victoria
- RSV
- FluB unsubtypable
- - - ILI

Vaccination rate in Lebanon during the 2016/2017 season



Reminder of

COUNTRY OBJECTIVES FOR THE UPCOMING 3 YEARS

- Surveillance study:
 - Finalize Flu51 and report
 - Manuscript and publication
 - Communication on B strain circulation in Lebanon and region
- Increase VCR and widen protection
 - QIV launch
 - New target groups
 - New vaccination channels (companies and pharmacies)
- Initiate and implement recommendations for high risk groups (diabetes, chest and asthma, pregnancy)
- Awareness and education:
 - Public through media and societies
 - Private : speakers pool

COUNTRY ACTION PLAN YEAR 2018 (1)

COMPONENTS	Q1	Q2	Challenges
SURVEILLANCE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue SARI Surveillance 2. Continue Sentinel surveillance 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze data 2. Prepare report 	Primers adapted to identify unsubtypable strains
VACCINATION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase in total population VCR to 6% and 7% in children 2. QIV introduction in children age group 3. New target groups 4. Extend flu vaccination season 		
SOCIAL MOBILIZATION / EDUCATION / AWARENESS		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initiate action plan in collaboration with flu companies 	Need of dedicated time and personnel
ADVOCACY & POLICY	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Partnerships with societies 2. Prospect for untapped target groups 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initiate and implement action plan tailored per target group 2. Advisory board for local insight and recommendation from specialty HCP 	Funding – dedicated team – collaboration with private companies

COUNTRY ACTION PLAN YEAR 2018 (2)

COMPONENTS	Q3	Q4	Challenges
SURVEILLANCE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report , manuscript and poster about B strain circulation 2. ID online Bulletin 	Continuous communication through ID online bulletin	
VACCINATION		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to Increase in total population VCR 2.QIV expansion : infants and children - elderly 3. New target groups 4. Extend flu vaccination season 	Get differentiated recommendation QIV/TIV
SOCIAL MOBILIZATION / EDUCATION / AWARENESS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Workshops for various target groups: army – companies – Diabetes – OBGYN 2. Focus on Pharmacies: increase ease of access to vaccine 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education and awareness campaigns to and through pharmacies 2. Communication on recommendations issued by societies for specific high risk groups 	Company support to initiate and fund awareness sessions and material
ADVOCACY & POLICY	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Communication in region about B strain and need for QIV 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advisory board for local and regional insight on B strain and need for QIV 	Dedicated time and personnel

CONCLUSIONS / HIGHLIGHTS

- Ongoing two-tier surveillance sheds light on possible differences between inpatient and outpatient distribution of influenza subtypes
- Although vaccine uptake is improving but there's still a long way to go
- The search for advocacy group continues: academics, public, and governmental representatives