Laboratory Surveillance Report

Influenza (Week ending March 21, 2015)

National Influenza Update (CDC)
- Nationally, CDC reported 10.6% of the 12,824 surveillance specimens tested positive for influenza. Influenza activity has been declining in the US.
- According to CDC, the hospitalization rate for the ≥65 year old age group is the highest recorded since this type of record-keeping began in 2005.
- About 75% of the H3N2 viruses circulating this season are different or "drifted" from the H3N2 vaccine virus, but most B viruses are closely matched to the vaccine viruses.

Wisconsin Influenza Update
- Surveillance data showed influenza B activity increasing in Wisconsin. 21.8% of the 1,240 specimens tested positive for influenza by PCR.

It is NO longer necessary to send positive influenza specimens to WSLH. Please send:
- A sampling of influenza-related hospitalizations.
- Specimens that fail to subtype (Ct <35) if subtyping for 2009H1 and H3 were performed.

Other Surveillance Data (Wisconsin)

RSV
- RSV activity declined the past two weeks in WI. 11.5% of specimens tested positive for RSV by PCR at Wisconsin clinical labs.
- RSV was the predominate non-influenza respiratory virus detected.

Rotavirus
- Rotavirus activity was reported throughout WI.
- 32.6% of the 89 specimens tested were positive for rotavirus by rapid antigen testing.