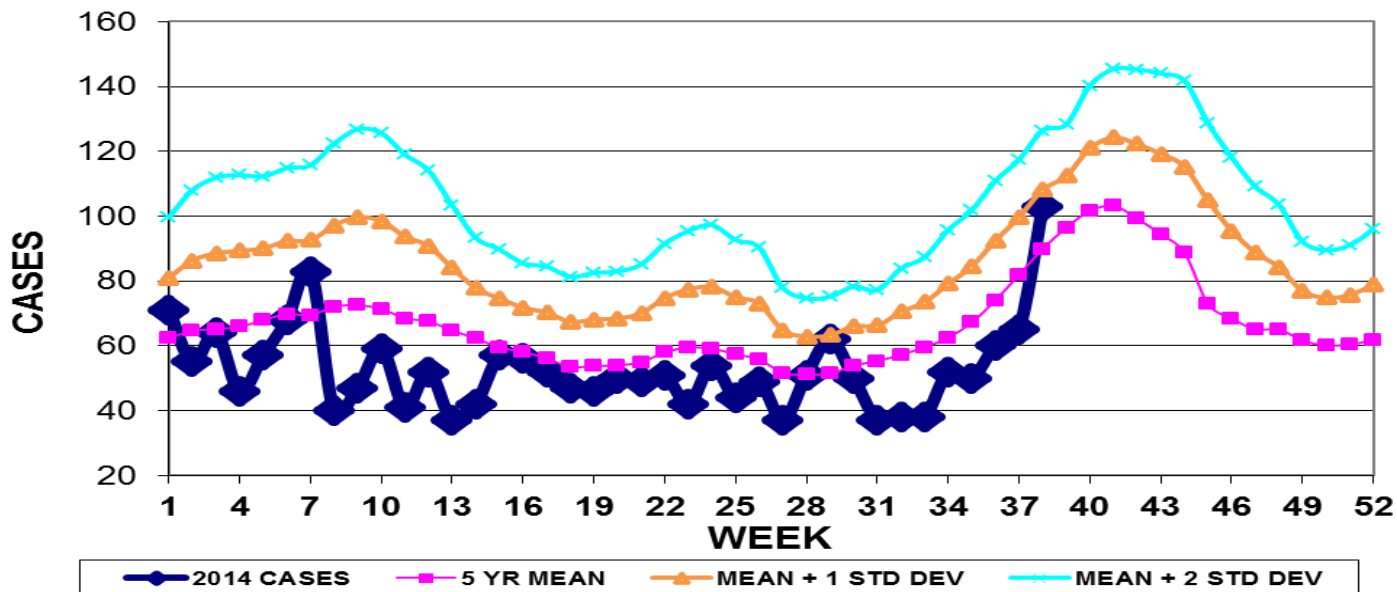


INFECTION CONTROL DEPARTMENT
 GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY
GUAM EPIDEMIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

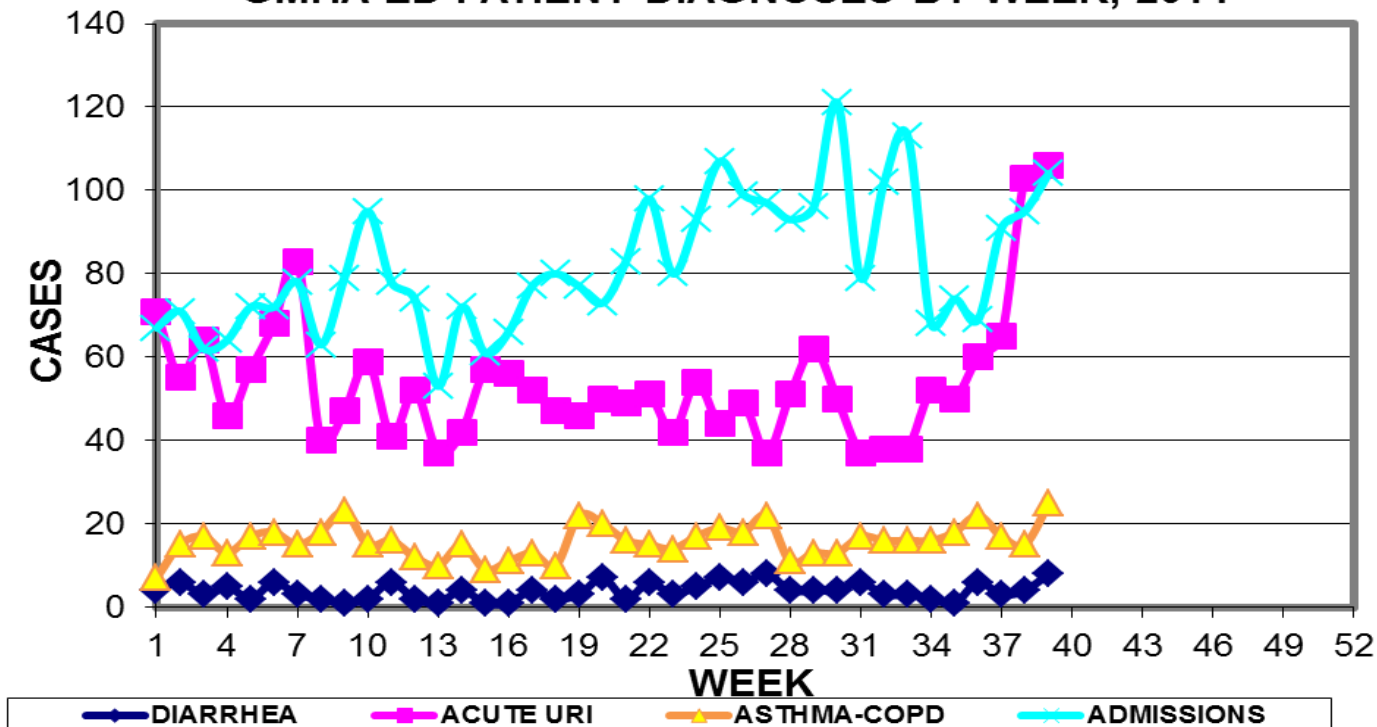
REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING: 9/27/2014 (Reporting week 2014-39)

GUAM REPORTS

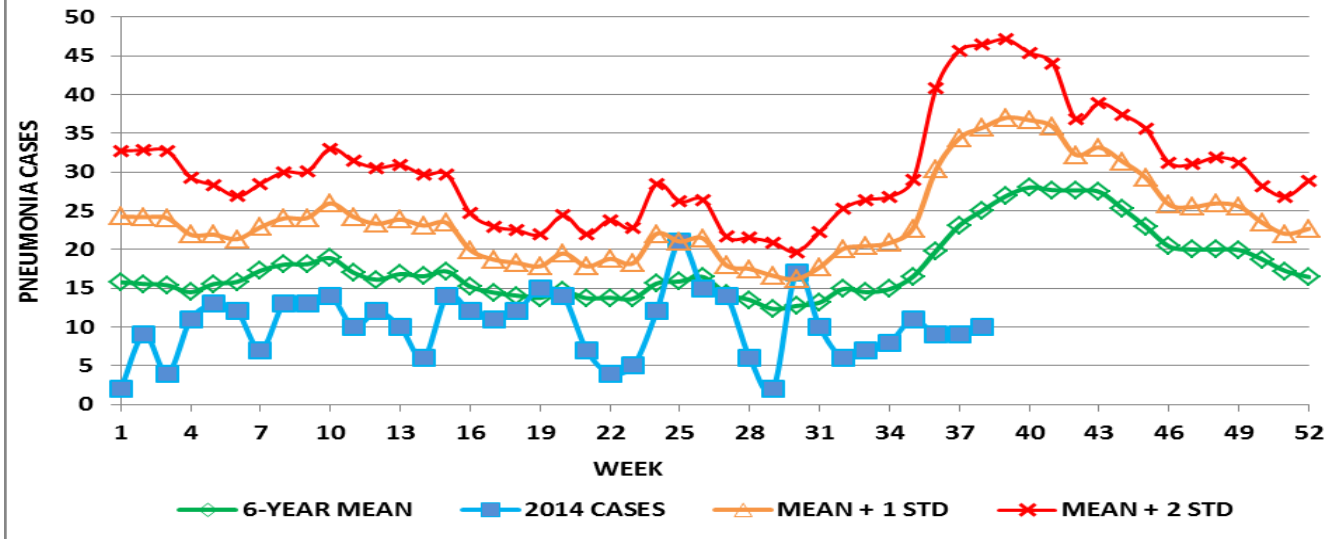
**GUAM ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTION SURVEILLANCE 2014;
 GMHA-EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PATIENTS BY WEEK SEEN**



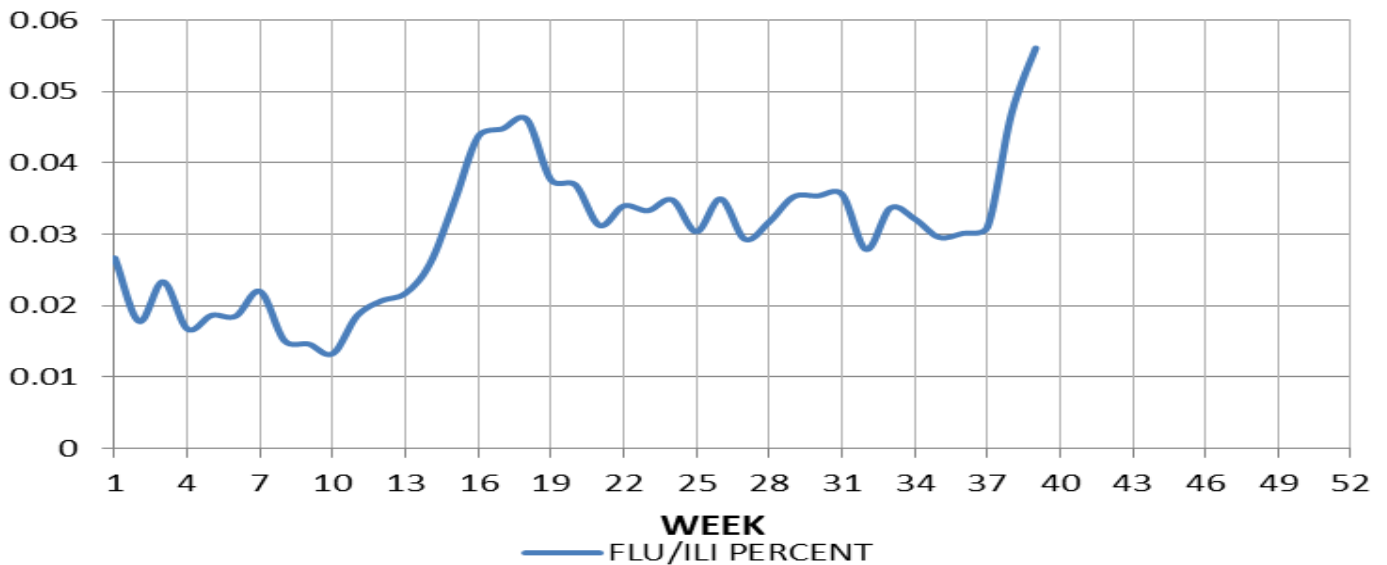
**GUAM SYNDROMIC DISEASE SURVEILLANCE
 GMHA-ED PATIENT DIAGNOSES BY WEEK, 2014**



**MEDICAL RECORDS AND INFECTION CONTROL DEPARTMENTS
GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY
HOSPITAL INPATIENT DISCHARGES WITH A DIAGNOSIS OF PNEUMONIA
BY WEEK DISCHARGED, 2014**



**FLU/ILI AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL PATIENTS SEEN, GMHA-ED, 2014
(3-WEEK SMOOTHED)**



GUAM SENTINEL PHYSICIAN INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE
 REPORTS OF INFLUENZA OR INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESSES
 RECEIVED FOR THE WEEK ENDING 9/27/14
Fifteen cases reported by sentinel physicians

Bureau of Communicable Disease Control
Guam Department of Public Health & Social Services
H1N1 INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE, WEEK 39, 2014
NO CASES OF H1N1 REPORTED FOR WEEK 39
Cumulative 2014: 0 civilian & 0 military cases

INFECTION CONTROL DEPARTMENT
 GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY
HOSPITALIZATIONS FOR INFLUENZA A BY AGE
AND MORBIDITY REPORTING WEEK

AGE	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	TOTAL
0-4											1
5-18											
19-24											
25-49											
50-64										1	2
65+											
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3

NOTE: One case of Influenza B hospitalized during week 38

Bureau of Communicable Disease Control
Guam Department of Public Health & Social Services
ISLAND-WIDE COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT

REPORTS RECEIVED FOR THE WEEK ENDING 9/27/2014

<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i>	10
E. coli MDR	6
Hepatitis B	1
Influenza A	3
Influenza B	1
MRSA	16
Salmonellosis	1
Streptococcal sore throat	3
Streptococcal disease, other	4
VRE	2

□

INFECTION CONTROL DEPARTMENT
 GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY
**GMHA-EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT CLINICAL DIAGNOSES OF INFLUENZA OR
 FLU-SYNDROME BY WEEK AND PATIENT'S VILLAGE OF RESIDENCE, 2014**
 (Villages listed geographically from northern-most to southern-most)

VILLAGE	WEEK										TOTAL	2014 RATE
	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39		
Yigo	1	0	3	4	2	0	4	1	6	5	64	308.42
Dededo	3	4	7	8	3	3	6	5	9	15	176	387.61
Tamuning	2	2	0	3	2	1	3	3	4	1	79	397.22
Barrigada	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	4	4	44	490.69
Mangilao	1	2	3	1	1	2	0	5	3	3	71	462.60
Mongmong-T-M	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	1	3	4	36	522.12
Hagatña	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	13	1224.11
Agaña Heights	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	6	155.97
Sinajana	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	2	0	14	534.56
Chalan Pago-Ordot	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	19	275.68
Asan-Maina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	185.27
Piti	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	204.22
Santa Rita	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	97.61
Agat	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	14	281.80
Yona	1	2	1	0	3	2	2	0	3	3	36	504.05
Talofofo	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	16	549.87
Inarajan	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	12	522.65
Merizo	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	481.54
Umatac	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	506.33
Tourist	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
TOTAL	12	13	16	20	15	12	20	16	39	45	639	396.89

NOTE: Rate = cases per 100,000 population for the specified period.

INFLUENZA/ILI ACTIVITY LEVEL - Widespread (More than half of villages affected)
 (ACTIVITY LEVELS: No activity, Sporadic, Local, Regional, Widespread)

GUAM ANIMAL DISEASE (ZONOSSES) REPORTS
 REPORTS RECEIVED FOR THE WEEK ENDING 9/27/2014

Anaplasmosis – 2 canine, Babesiosis – 1 canine

LEPTOSPIROSIS AND “HASHERS”

At 9:03 p.m. on Saturday, September 13, 2014, the Guam Fire Department received a 911 call reporting lost hikers in the Mount Schroeder area of the Merizo district of southern Guam. Members of a local Hashers club (“hashers” have been described as drinking clubs with a running problem) had set out that afternoon at about 4:00 p.m. to follow a trail through a wilderness area of southern Guam left by a trail blazer member of the club. One runner had fallen into a ravine, three additional runners had minor injuries, and about 25 were apparently missing. Rescue operations lasted until 4:24 a.m. by which time 79 hashers had been led to safety and all were apparently accounted for. None of the participants had to be hospitalized for their injuries.

This was an apparently happy conclusion to what could have been a tragic event but over the next several weeks at least 10 participants were diagnosed with leptospirosis. Leptospirosis is a bacterial disease of mammals and is spread through contact with urine. The time between a person's exposure to a contaminated source and becoming sick may vary from 2 days to 4 weeks. Illness usually begins abruptly with fever and other symptoms that may include chills, headache, muscle aches, vomiting, or diarrhea. The patient may recover for a time but become ill again. If a second phase occurs, it is likely to be more severe and the person may have kidney or liver failure or meningitis. This phase is also called Weil's disease. The illness lasts from a few days to 3 weeks or longer. Without treatment, recovery may take several months.

This is not the first time that an outbreak of this nature has occurred on Guam. In July of 2000 a multi-sport “Extreme-Adventure” event (segments included running, bicycling, swimming and kayaking) was held on Guam. One hundred-five race participants were officially registered for the race which also covered parts of southern Guam. Within several days of the finish a number of participants complained of being ill and several were confirmed to have contracted leptospirosis. When comparing the histories of ill and not-ill race participants, the risk factors which appeared to be associated with illness were wearing short pants (participant likely to obtain lacerations from saw grass or rocks along the running route) and swimming with head submerged or swallowing water in the Fena River system.

The scenic wild areas of southern Guam are home to feral water buffalo and deer. Contamination left by wildlife is likely to be washed off land surfaces during Guam's July-November rainy season to contaminate local rivers. To prevent future disease outbreaks of this nature, it would be appropriate for organizers of similar events to not schedule these events following periods of heavy rain and to avoid routing participants through areas where they may be in contact with waters which have been contaminated with domestic or feral animal waste products (contact with eyes, nose, mouth, skin lacerations, etc. is especially risky). Another measure would be to not route race contestants through areas with a history of being associated with leptospirosis cases. Another “Extreme-Adventure” race was held on Guam in 2001 but the course was changed to avoid the area frequented by feral water buffalo and no cases of leptospirosis were reported. As that American sage Governor Jesse Ventura has been quoted as saying, “Learn from history or you're doomed to repeat it.”