

Preliminary summary on oseltamivir-resistant H1N1 virus: Italy

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Over the 2007-2008 influenza season in the northern hemisphere, a total of 106 H1N1 viruses were tested for oseltamivir resistance (H274Y) in Italy, of which 1 virus (0.9%) was found to be resistant.

Month of sampling	Dec 07	Jan 08	Feb 08	Mar 08	Apr 08
No. of H1N1 isolates tested	21	73	12	0	0
No. (%) of viruses resistant to oseltamivir	0	0	1	0	0

Specimen collection sites:

Information on collection sites was available for 88 of the 106 viruses tested. Collection sites of specimens were outpatient clinics (76%) and hospitals (24%).

Geographical distribution:

The one virus that was found to be oseltamivir resistant was collected in the northern part of the country (Parma).

Demography:

Specimens have been collected from both adults and children. However, due to the limited number of oseltamivir resistant viruses, it was not possible to conduct any meaningful analysis in this regard.

Oseltamivir use:

Given the limited number of oseltamivir resistant viruses, it was not possible to conduct this type of analysis. Generally, oseltamivir use in the treatment of influenza is uncommon in Italy.

Vaccination history:

Information was available for 73 of 106 viruses tested. Among patients with known recent vaccination history, the one from whom the resistant virus had been collected and 9 (12%) of the 73 patients with susceptible virus had recent influenza vaccination.

Clinical features, special underlying conditions and other findings:

Given the limited number of oseltamivir resistant viruses collected, it was not possible to perform this type of analysis.

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