

3 SEASONAL DISEASES

a Global influenza update

Influenza activity in many countries in Europe, East Asia and northern Africa appears to have peaked, but in the rest of the northern hemisphere activity continues to be elevated. Influenza A(H3N2) remains predominant and the majority of influenza viruses characterised were antigenically similar to the reference virus contained in the 2016/17 season vaccine.

In South Africa, the influenza season has not yet started though sporadic detections of influenza A (H3N2) have been made from travellers returning from the northern hemisphere, or persons in contact with travellers.

Source: Centre for Respiratory Diseases and Meningitis, NICD-NHLS; (cherylc@nicd.ac.za)