November 1, 2021

During the 2-week period of October 17 – October 30, 2021, 82 respiratory samples were sent for respiratory virus multiplex PCR testing to the Microbiology Laboratory at SickKids. This was slightly decreased from the previous 2-week period. Rhinovirus/enterovirus (n=25) continues to predominate, and as a proportion of positive specimens remains stable. Parainfluenza (n=13) continuing to be the second most common respiratory virus detected. This 2-week period saw some RSV activity (n=5) detected. There again has been no influenza activity previous two weeks. Detection of SARS-CoV-2 is excluded from this report.


Nationally, enterovirus/rhinovirus continues to be the most common respiratory virus detected, representing 21.5% of positives; this has decreased slightly from the last report. RSV is the second most common respiratory virus detected (8.7%) followed by parainfluenza virus (8.4%) during the weeks of October 17 – October 23, 2021. The rate of RSV is higher than expected for this time of year. There remains almost no influenza activity within Canada. https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/surveillance/respiratory-virus-detections-canada.html