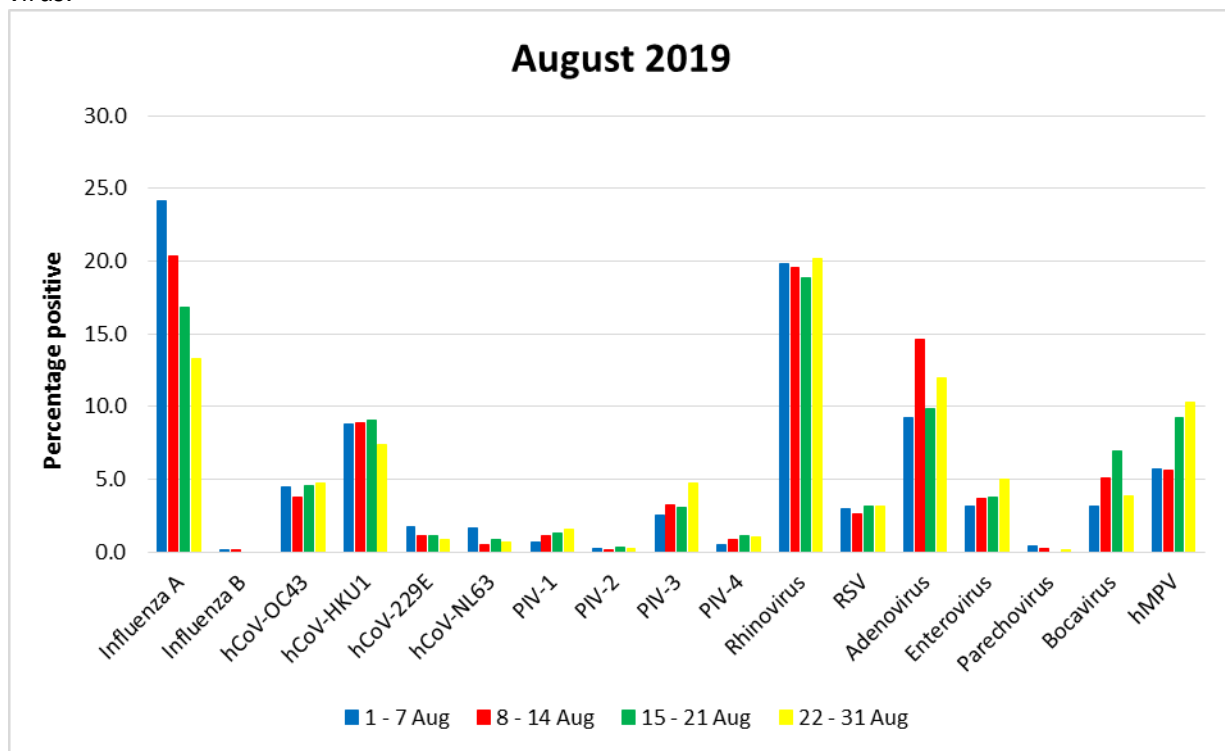




One or more respiratory viruses were detected in 62.8% of respiratory specimens submitted for testing to Lancet Laboratories during **August 2019**. The number of samples submitted for testing decreased by 11.3% when compared to July 2019. In the full respiratory virus panel a single viral pathogen was detected in 46.1% of the samples. More samples were received from female than male patients (55.6% vs 44.4%), and 37.0% of samples were received from children less than 5 years of age.

The graph below represents the viruses detected as the percentage positive per week for each particular virus.



hCoV = Human coronavirus; PIV = Parainfluenza virus; RSV = Respiratory syncytial virus; hMPV = Human metapneumovirus

- Rhinovirus was the most prevalent virus during August, detected in 19.7% of all samples, followed by Influenza A virus (18.9%) and Adenovirus (11.5%).
- The prevalence of Influenza A virus decreased from 24.1% during the first week to 13.3% during the last 10 days of the month.
- Influenza B virus, hCoV-NL63, PIV-2, PIV-4 and Parechovirus were all detected in less than 1% of samples submitted for testing.
- *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* was detected in 0.9% of samples (not represented graphically).



Compiled by Dr L Maree

