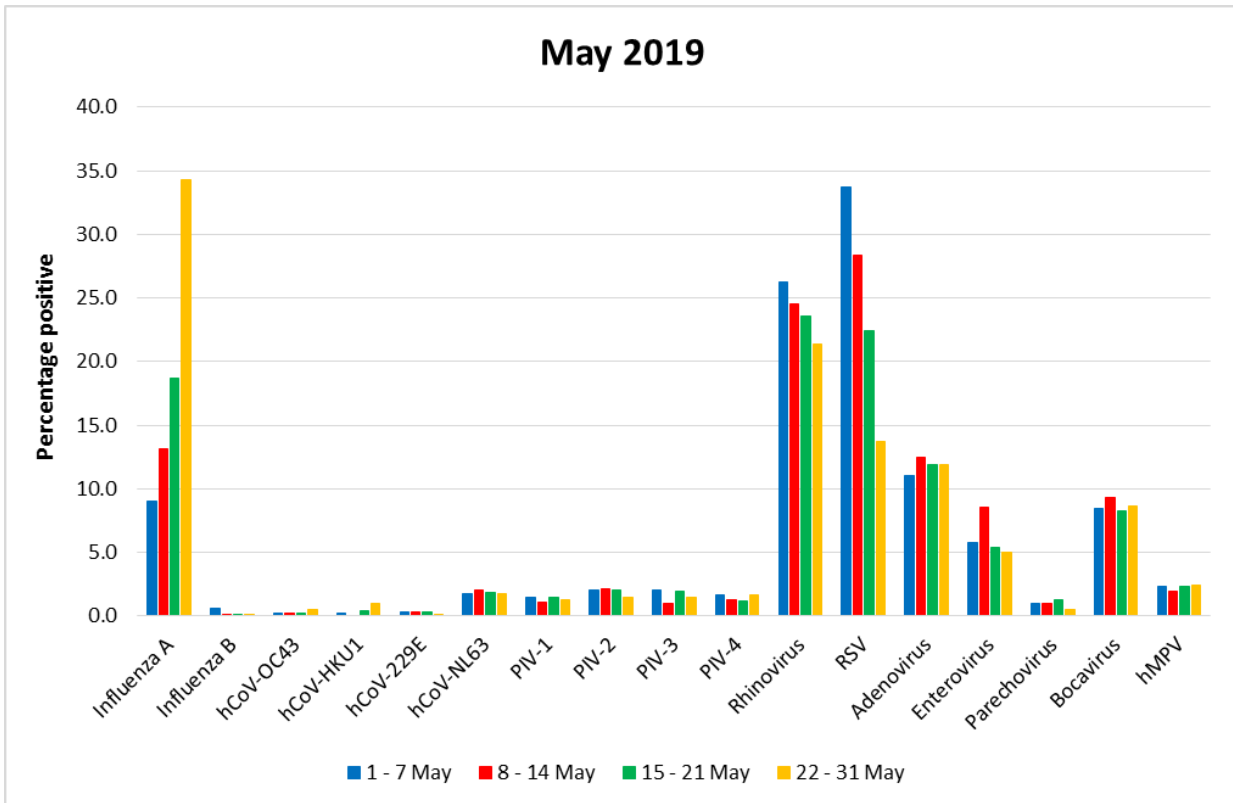




One or more respiratory viruses were detected in 72.2% of respiratory specimens submitted for testing to Lancet Laboratories during **May 2019**. The number of samples submitted for testing increased by 68.2% when compared to April 2019. Just over 40% of the samples were received during the last 10 days of the month alone. In the full respiratory virus panel a single viral pathogen was detected in 49.2% of the samples. Slightly more samples were received from female than male patients (51.1% vs 48.9%), and 49.2% of the 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

- The prevalence of Influenza A virus increased weekly during May, from 9.0% during the first week to 34.2% during the last 10 days of the month. The majority of Influenza A viruses that were typed were Influenza A/H3.
- The prevalence of RSV decreased weekly during May, from 33.7% during the first week to 13.7% during the last 10 days of the month.
- *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* was detected in 1.2% of samples (not represented graphically).



Compiled by Dr L Maree

