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Syndromic Surveillance & COVID-19 Update Epiweek 46: 13/11/23 – 19/11/23

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A. COVID-19 Situational Update

Date of report: November 20th, 2023

SAMOA COVID-19 SITUATION	Number of cases
Total of new COVID-19 positive cases over the last 7 days (both PCR and rapid antigen test - RAT)	1
Positivity rate for COVID-19 testing in the previous week	0.31%
Cumulative number of COVID-19 positive cases (border and community cases)	16,781
Cumulative number of COVID-19 related deaths since community transmission detected in March 17, 2022	31

B. Syndromic Surveillance Update

1. Influenza like illness (ILI)

Case Definition: An acute respiratory infection with a history of fever or measured fever of ≥ 38 C° and cough,

with onset within the last 10 days

Alert threshold: Exceeding double the average in the previous 2 weeks

Epi-weeks	Epi-week 45: 06/11/23-12/11/23	Epi-week 46: 13/11/23-19/11/23
Total cases reported	465	585
Moving Average	571	528
Threshold	1141	1055

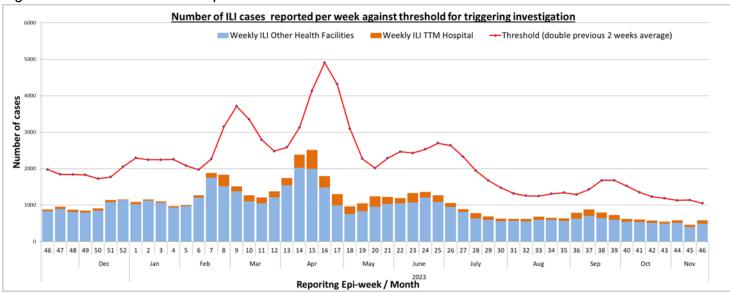








Figure 1. Number of ILI cases reported from all Health Facilities



The ILI cases reported is below the alert threshold. However, the Ministry of Health still highly recommends the general public to continue the practice of preventative measures such as – wearing of masks especially when you're having flu-like symptoms such as cough and runny nose, hand hygiene and avoid large gatherings without masks. If you are feeling ill with flu-like symptoms, please see a nurse or doctor, stay home and take medications as prescribed.

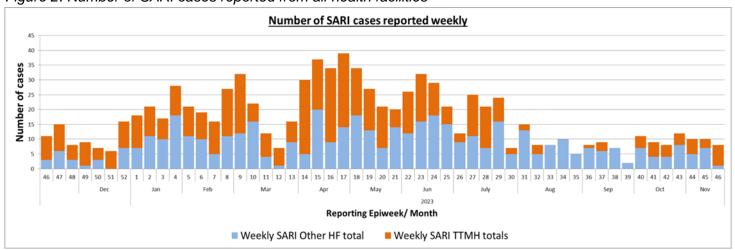
2. Severe acute respiratory infection (SARI)

Case Definition: An acute respiratory infection with a history of fever or measured fever of ≥ 38 C° and cough, with onset within the last 10 days, AND requiring hospitalization

Alert threshold: 2 linked cases

Epi-weeks	Epi-week 45: 06/11/23-12/11/23	Epi-week 46: 13/11/23-19/11/23
Total cases reported	10	8
Moving Average	11	10
Threshold	2 linked cases	2 linked cases

Figure 2. Number of SARI cases reported from all health facilities



The SARI cases reported have been investigated, and no known links were identified. Therefore, it does not meet the definition exceeding the threshold. Despite the threshold, the public is strongly advised to continue to practice preventative measures as mentioned above such as wearing of masks, hand hygiene and avoid crowded places.







