

SUMMARY

Flu A is rapidly declining

RSV and FluB are on the rise

With Gratitude:

Special thanks to Patti Fidelman, MT(ASCP), Julie Riley, MT(ASCP), Lisa Scicchitano, MT(ASCP) and Kris Robb, MT(ASCP), Technical Specialists at GMC and GLH, respectively, for their work with the Geisinger Lewistown implementation team.



If you have any questions about this information, please contact the Microbiology Doctoral Directors, pager 8600. For newsletter questions, contact Christy Attinger, (570) 271-6338

A Publication of Geisinger Medical Laboratories 2015 Vol. (5):1-4, March 27, 2015



RESPView Pathogen Surveillance 2014-2015:

- The incidence of flu is declining, with a concurrent overall decrease in respiratory virus prevalence.
- RSV and influenza account for 58% of all viruses detected.
- Of the influenza subtyped, most are flu B (53%).

10X Essentials: Welcome GLH Microbiology

Effective March 1, 2015, the Geisinger Medical Laboratories welcomed GLH to the laboratory system. GLH offers the following on-site tests:

- Blood and urine cultures
- STAT Gram stains, including CSF inoculation
- *Clostridium difficile* PCR (CDIFP)
- Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSAP- MRSA Screen PCR)
- Vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* (VREP- VRE Screen PCR)
- FluA/B/RSV abbreviated respiratory pathogen panel (ABRP)

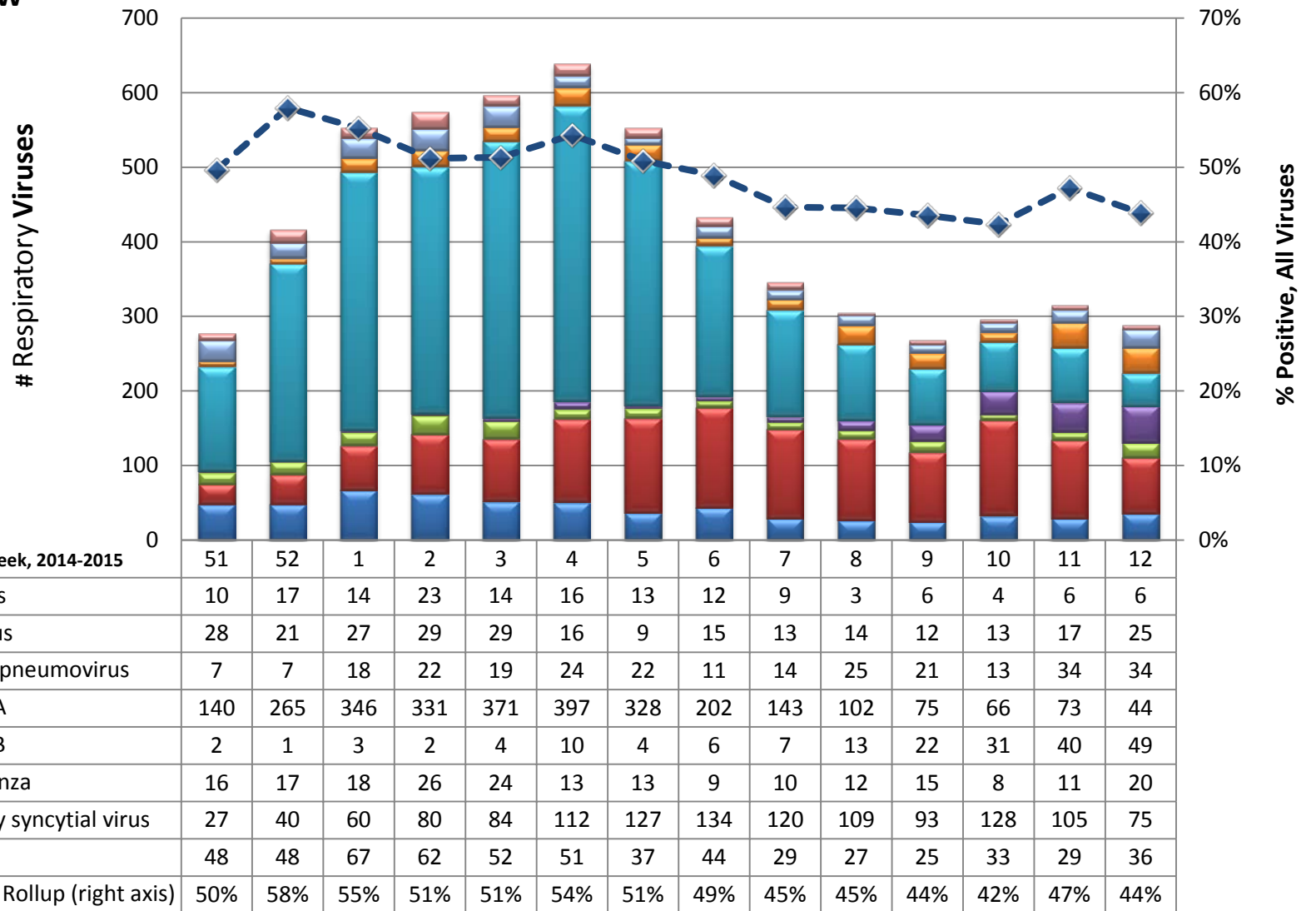


Other cultures are being temporarily sent to Danville for testing and tests will be repatriated based on local needs and staffing. STAT couriers are available for emergencies by contacting the GLH laboratory.

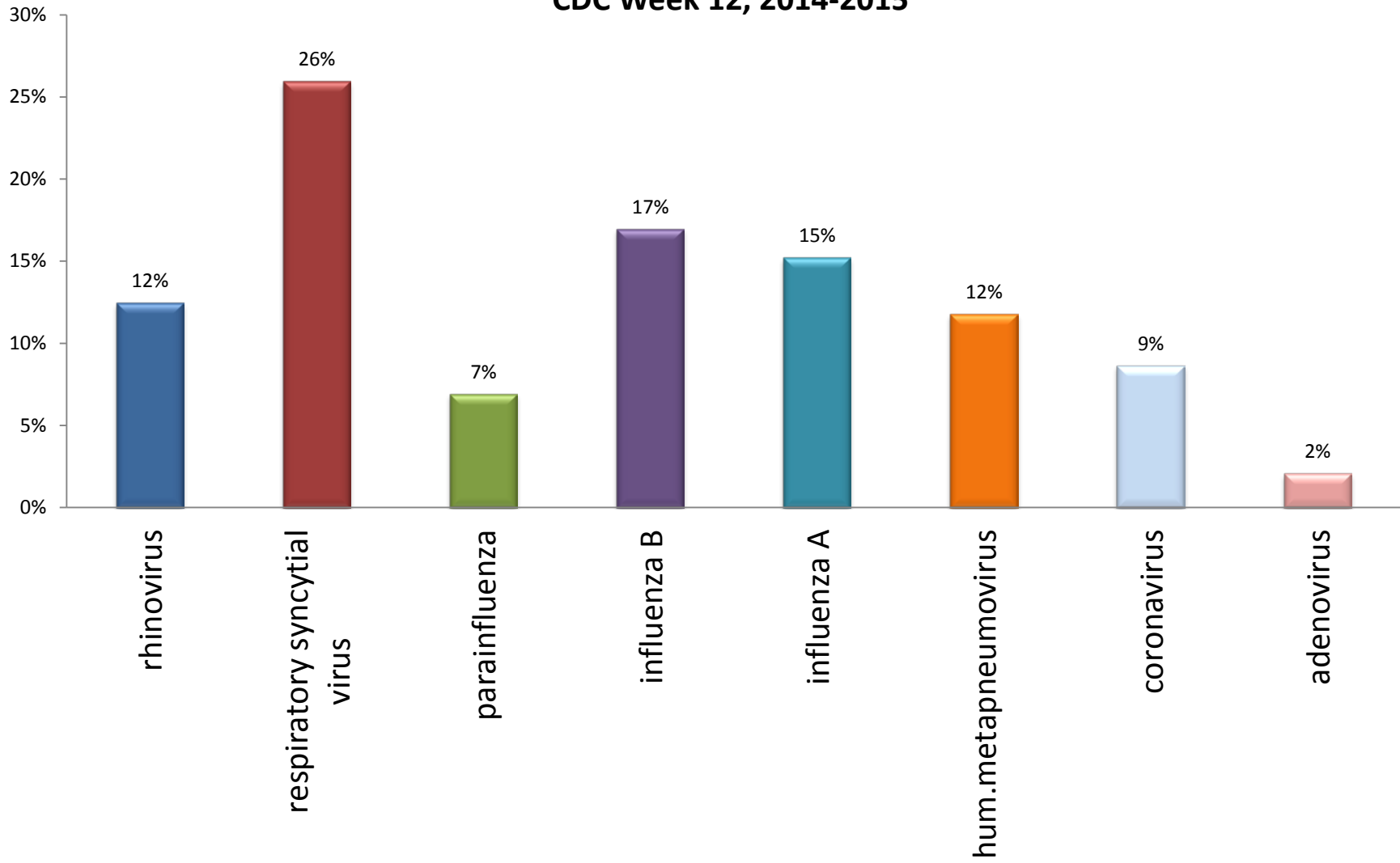
10X Essentials: MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometry to replace biochemical identification of select bacteria and yeast at GMC

Effective March 4, 2015, the GMC microbiology laboratory began performing select bacterial and fungal identifications using the Vitek Mass Spectrometer (MS). The Vitek MS utilizes matrix assisted laser desorption ionization time of flight (MALDI-TOF) technology, a new method for identification of microbial proteins post-culture. This technology is currently only offered at the GMC campus, and by referral to GMC. This methodology offers a more rapid turn-around time, in which microorganism identification can take minutes (and potentially save a day). Please be aware that the use of the MALDI-TOF method will incur a different charge than those used for the standard biochemical methods and is a cost saving approach to bacterial identification.

**GML RespVIEW
2014-2015**



Weekly GML RespVIEW: Respiratory Virus Distribution CDC Week 12, 2014-2015



Influenza Types and Subtypes, GML, CDC Week 12, 2015, n=93

■ Flu A H1 Seasonal ■ Flu A H3 Seasonal ■ Flu A H1N1 2009 ■ Flu A not typed ■ Flu B

