



RISK ASSESSMENT

EVALUATION OF THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION OF RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS

DATE OF THE ASSESSMENT	EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK	PUBLISHED 9/1
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RAG person of contact:

Jorgen Stassijns (+ 32 478 84 02 91, jorgen.stassijns@sciensano.be)

rag@sciensano.be

DESCRIPTION OF THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION

For detailed evolution of Respi-Radar indicators, see appendix

For detailed results of the wastewater-based epidemiological surveillance of SARS-CoV-2, RSV, and Influenza, see the report

- Syndromic surveillance of consultations for **Influenza Like Illnesses (ILI)** at the **General Practitioners** shows an increase.
- Syndromic surveillance of **ILI at Nursing Homes** shows an important increase.
- Syndromic surveillance of **hospitalizations for SARI** shows an increasing trend over the past weeks, but a slight decrease in the last week of available data (week 52).
- The circulation and impact of **SARS-CoV-2** remains low in all surveillance systems.
- **RSV**
 - Wastewater surveillance: increasing number of stations where RSVB is detected, decreasing number of stations where RSVA is detected.
 - Laboratory surveillance: decreasing number of RSV positive tests (week 52, not fully consolidated).
 - SARI surveillance: decreasing number of hospitalizations for RSV (week 51).
- **Influenza**
 - Wastewater surveillance: increasing number of stations where Influenza is detected.
 - Laboratory surveillance: stable number of Influenza-positive tests (week 52, not fully consolidated).
 - GP surveillance: increasing number of consultations(week 52).
 - SARI surveillance: increasing number of hospitalizations (week 51).

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL LEVEL

ORANGE

The epidemiological level of respiratory infections in Belgium is increased to the orange level.

While the current epidemiological situation is expected and in line with the situation in previous years, experts agreed to change the level as the pressure on the health care system (first and second line) as well as on nursing homes is increasing and recommendations are needed to reverse the trend.

The circulation of Influenza, the incidence of GP consultations for Influenza and the incidence of SARI admissions for Influenza have increased over the last weeks.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The RAG supports the **recommendations** associated to the orange level as described in the Winter Plan for respiratory infections. The RAG stresses once again the **importance of vaccination** against respiratory viruses, especially for vulnerable people and for healthcare workers. The RAG also draws attention to the need for **efficient vaccination registries** for RSV and Influenza, to provide reliable data essential for the analysis and evaluation of the epidemiological situation.

Experts	Method
Emmanuel André (UZ Leuven), Caroline Boulouffe (AViQ), Claire Brugerolles (Sciensano), Simon Couvreur (Sciensano), Laurane De Mot (Sciensano), Géraldine De Muylder (Sciensano), Peter Delputte (UAntwerpen), Pierre-Louis Deudon (CMG), Bertrand Draguez (SPF Santé), François Dufrasne (Sciensano), Sébastien Fierens (Sciensano), Naïma Hammami (Departement Zorg), Niel Hens (UHasselt/UAntwerpen), Vicky Jaspers (KCE), Yves Lafort (Sciensano), Christelle Meuris (CHR Verviers), Geert Molenberghs (KULeuven/UHasselt), Reinout Naessens (ZAS), Kathlyn Rodière (ONE), Lucie Seyler (UZ Brussel), Jorgen Stassijns (Sciensano), Giulietta Stefani (Sciensano), Adrae Taame (Vivalis), Gerlant van Berlaer (SPF Santé), Eva Van Braeckel (UZ Gent), Steven Van Gucht (Sciensano).	Online meeting 9/1/2025

APPENDIX: RESPI-RADAR WEEK 1

For background on the indicators included in the Respi-Radar, please refer to the weekly bulletin on Acute Respiratory Infections [\[NL / FR\]](#).

Week		ILI	ARI	Nursing homes	SARI	Wastewater	RAG evaluation
2024w44	28/10 - 03/11	46	513	4	4,9	6	green
2024w45	04/11 - 10/11	86	903	5	5,8	0	green
2024w46	11/11 - 17/11	88	781	6	6,0	1	green
2024w47	18/11 - 24/11	76	992	4	10,0	0	green
2024w48	25/11 - 01/12	117	1175	4	11,7	1	green
2024w49	02/12 - 08/12	166	1096	6	12,6	3	yellow
2024w50	09/12 - 15/12	246	1198	12	13,7	1	yellow
2024w51	16/12 - 22/12	236	931	8	13,1	4	yellow
2024w52	23/12 - 29/12	334	711	12	12,4	4	yellow
2025w1	30/12 – 05/01	426	763	19		2	orange