



# DIAGNOSTIC VIROLOGY LABORATORY NEWSLETTER



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The most common virus isolated in October was influenza A virus! It was an early season, with high numbers of influenza A virus detected, and apparently more severe illnesses seen in children, including respiratory failure, pneumonia, serious secondary bacterial infections, and encephalopathy. Other viruses detected were parainfluenza virus type 1, adenovirus, and picornaviruses. RSV appears to be somewhat shy this season, and is only making a modest showing so far in the samples submitted to our laboratory. During the first three weeks of November 2003, influenza A virus activity appeared to be slowing down, RSV has increased slightly, and influenza B virus was detected in two samples. Stay tuned to our **RSV-FLU-O-Meter** [http://www.bcm.tmc.edu/pedi/infect/dvl/newsletter/RSV&FLU-O-METER\(combined\).pdf](http://www.bcm.tmc.edu/pedi/infect/dvl/newsletter/RSV&FLU-O-METER(combined).pdf) for the most up-to-date readings!

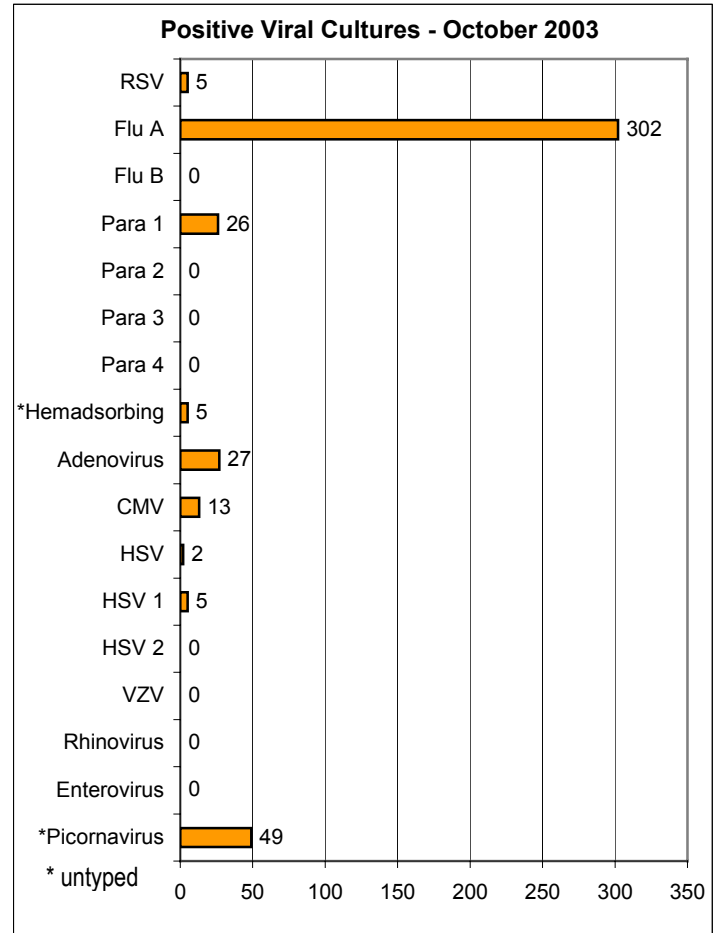
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## Viral Cultures – October 2003

|            |      |
|------------|------|
| Total      | 1283 |
| Positive   | 434  |
| % Positive | 34   |

Visit our website for weekly updates @:  
[www.bcm.tmc.edu/pedi/infect/dvl](http://www.bcm.tmc.edu/pedi/infect/dvl)

## Positive Viral Cultures – October 2003



## EIA Rapid Test Results – October 2003

|            | RSV  | Flu A | Flu B |
|------------|------|-------|-------|
| Tested     | 1088 | 1134  | 1134  |
| Positive   | 51   | 320   | 0     |
| % Positive | 5    | 28    | 0     |

## EIA Rapid Test Results – November 1-30, 2003

|            | RSV  | Flu A | Flu B |
|------------|------|-------|-------|
| Tested     | 1159 | 1026  | 1026  |
| Positive   | 221  | 157   | 3     |
| % Positive | 19   | 15    | 0     |

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