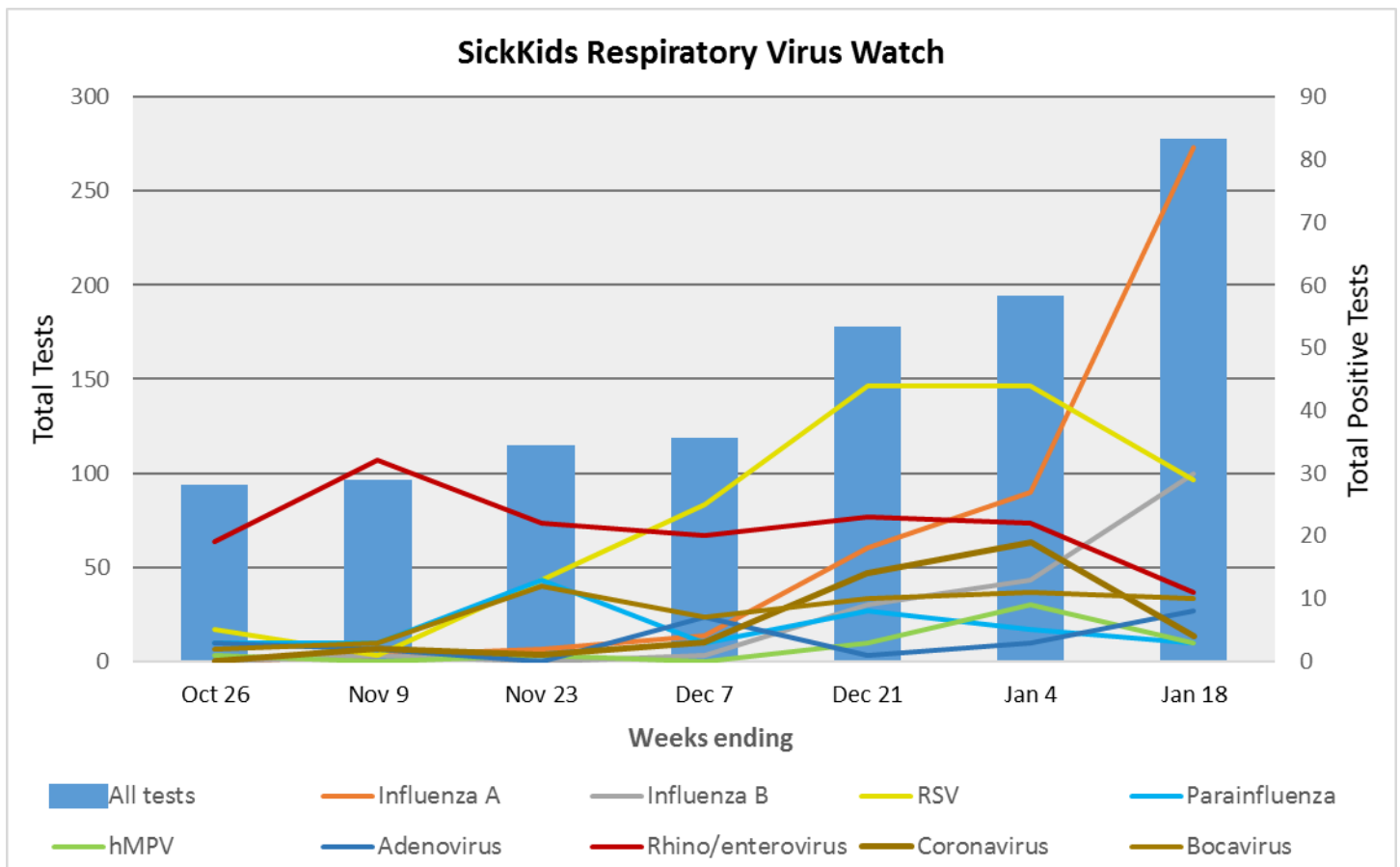


January 20, 2020

During the 2 week period of January 5, 2020 – January 18, 2020, 272 respiratory samples were sent for testing in the Microbiology Laboratory for respiratory virus multiplex PCR or the ED for rapid influenza PCR at SickKids. Detection of influenza A (n=82) increased, with the introduction of rapid influenza PCR in the ED on January 8. Influenza B (30) was the second most common virus detected while there was a decrease in the detection of RSV (29).



Influenza activity in Ontario for the week of January 5 – January 11, 2020 was similar to the previous week with influenza activity across the province reported as moderate for influenza A and low for influenza B.

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/ServicesAndTools/SurveillanceServices/Pages/Ontario-Respiratory-Virus-Bulletin.aspx>

Nationally, the influenza activity decreased slightly as of January 5 – January 11, 2020. There was an increase in the proportion of influenza A detected and the proportion of A(H1N1) increased. While the proportion of influenza B has decreased, it remains elevated for this time of year.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/flu-influenza/influenza-surveillance.html>