## Correspondence

# Incidence of influenza A H1N1 2009 infection in Eastern Saudi Arabian hospitals

To the Editor

I read with interest the paper by Herzallah et al on the first influenza pandemic of the 21st century. In agreement with previously published studies in Saudi Arabia, 3 and worldwide, 4,5 Al Hajjar and McIntosh addressed the usual age distribution of influenza A H1N1 infection. Infection was prevailing in children and young adults. The scarcity of reported infection in the elderly might reflect their protection owing to exposure to H1N1 strains before 1957. This peculiar age distribution might have implications in implementing suitable management plans and public health interventions.

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#### Reply from the Author

No reply was received from the Author.

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#### Related topics

Al-Ghamdi AS, Kabbash IA. Awareness of healthcare workers regarding preventive measures of communicable diseases among Hajj pilgrims at the entry point in Western Saudi Arabia. *Saudi Med J* 2011; 32: 1161-1167.

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Aljohani S. Swine influenza H1N1. Is your laboratory prepared? *Saudi Med J* 2009; 30: 872-875.