

Influenza queries from Internet medical databases by healthcare professionals

- To detect epidemics, data are typically gathered from several data sources
- Could healthcare professionals' online searches be used to supplement surveillance?
- In Finland, most healthcare professionals use one commercial web portal for medical information
- Openings on influenza were assessed to evaluate influenza outbreaks
- A similarity between healthcare professionals' openings and register-based data was found
- Medical searches by healthcare professionals could be used to supplement surveillance