

**MORTALITY ATTRIBUTABLE TO SEASONAL INFLUENZA IN GREECE,**

**2013 TO 2017: VARIATION BY TYPE/SUBTYPE AND AGE,**

**AND A POSSIBLE HARVESTING EFFECT**

**THEODORE LYTRAS, KATERINA PANTAVOU, ELISAVET MOURATIDOU,**

**AND SOTIRIOS TSIODRAS**

**RESULTS**

From **May 2013 to October 2017**, a total of **518,688 deaths were recorded in our dataset**, of whom 314,554 (60.6%) occurred during the four winter seasons. Most of these were in people aged 65 years and older,

271,510 vs 40,639 in people aged 15 to 64 years. The four seasons were heterogeneous with respect to influenza activity (Figure 1). During season 2013/14, influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 was dominant with some additional A(H3N2) activity; season 2014/15 was biphasic, with an early wave of A(H3N2) and an equally large second wave of influenza B;

season 2014/15 was completely dominated by A(H1N1)pdm09 with little late-season influenza B and virtually no A(H3N2); and season 2015/16 was dominated by A(H3N2) with a smaller late wave of influenza B. Average daily temperatures showed a clear seasonal pattern, with some winters being warmer (e.g. 2013/14) and others having more colder days (such as 2016/17). Mortality in people aged 65 years and over showed peaks during the winters of 2014/15 and 2016/17, coincidental with influenza A(H3N2) activity, while a more subtle peak in mortality for people aged 15–64 years was observed in the winter of 2015/16, when A(H1N1)pdm09 activity was high (Figure 1).