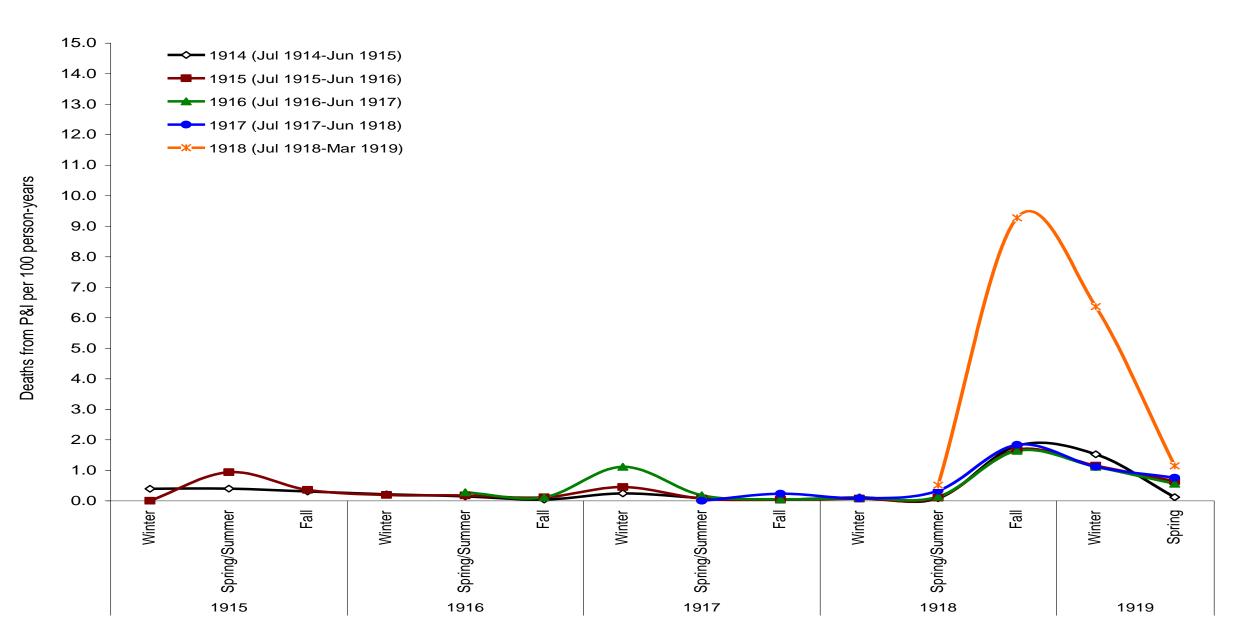
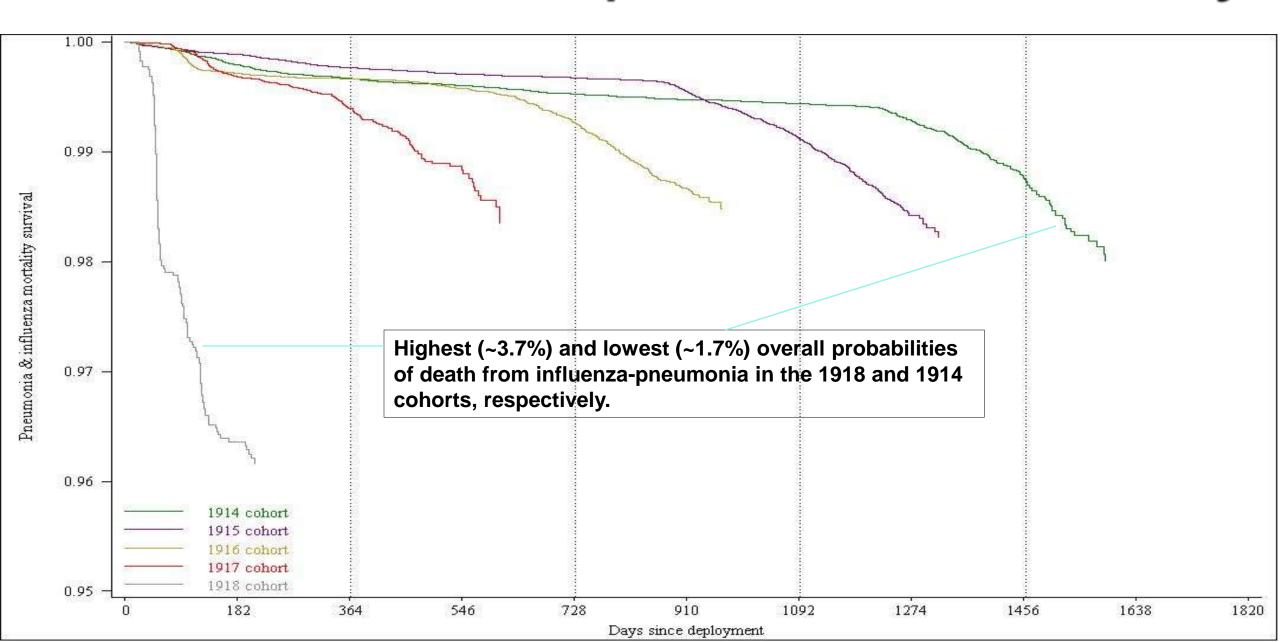
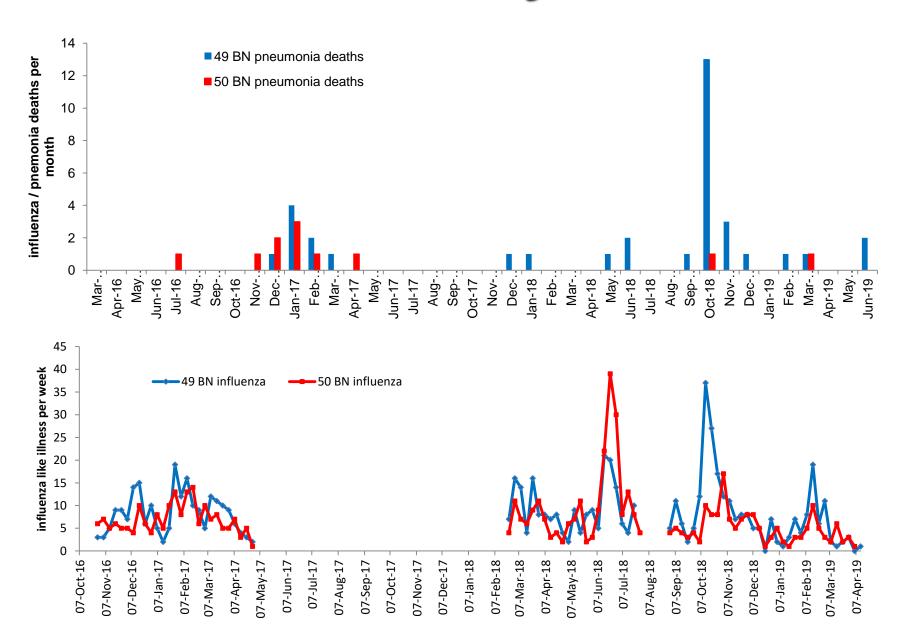
Mortality Inverse of Length of Army Service



Pneumonia Survival Depended on Time in Military

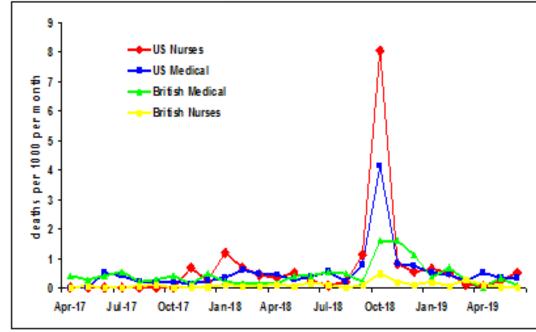


Different Influenza Mortality in Co-located Units



Low Mortality in Medical and Nursing Personnel

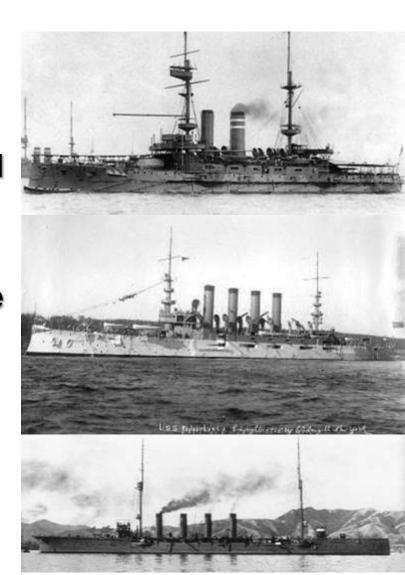
- Large numbers of military doctors and nurses became ill but very few died during pandemic
- Exception was newly recruited USA nurses or doctors who died at high rates
- Immunity may have been more directed against secondary bacterial infections than any influenza virus





Naval Mortality Depended on Hemisphere

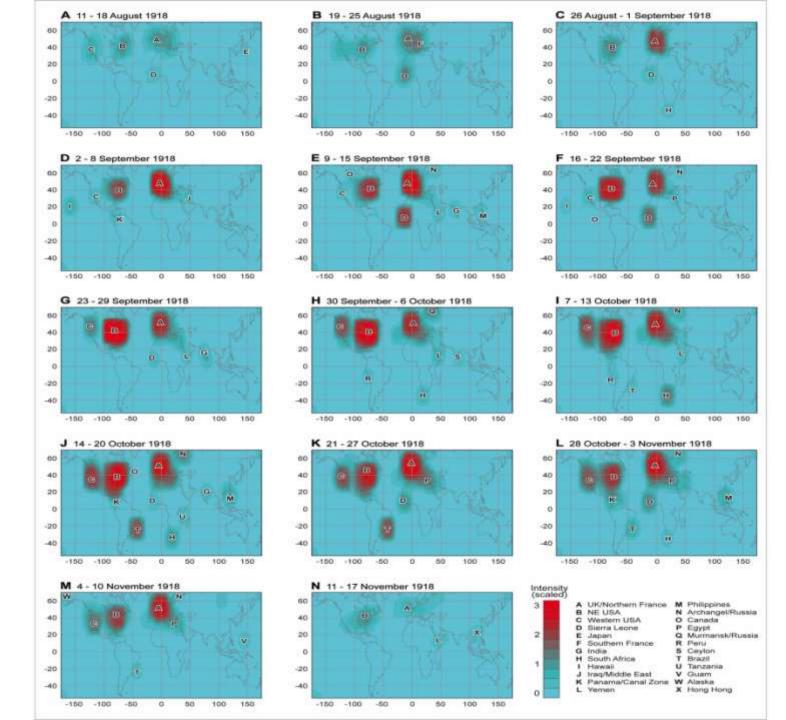
- Most capital ships in USA and UK navies had 0-1 deaths from hundreds of crew members
- Troopships from Australia / New Zealand either had no or disastrous influenza experience
- Cruisers on isolated patrol in Southern Hemisphere had much greater mortality (6-14%)
- Likely difference was whether crew had been exposed to first wave in early 1918 or not



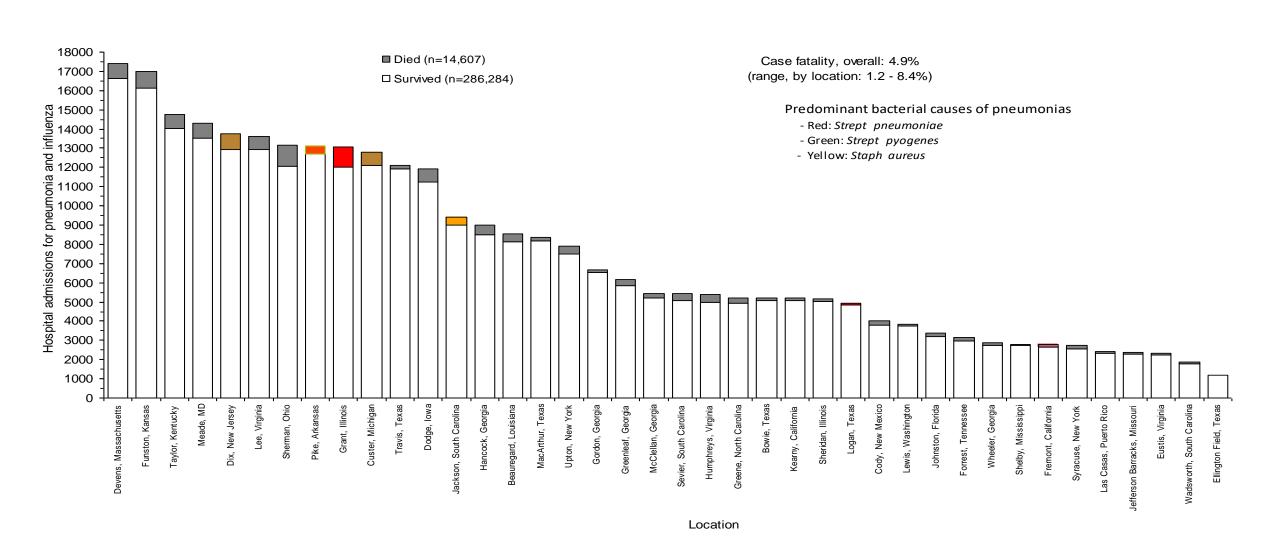
Disease Mortality in UK, USA, French Navies Aug-Nov 1918

Note: near simultaneous mortality waves on three continents

Influenza cannot move this fast today with aircraft instead of steam ships

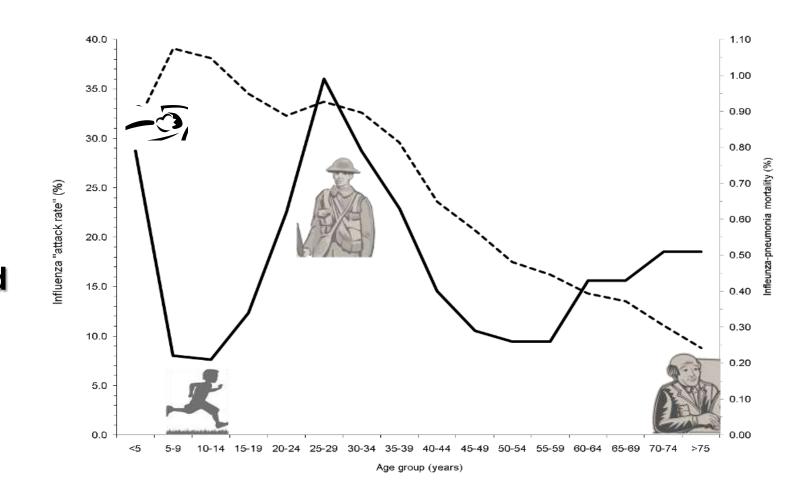


Morbidity and Mortality US Army Camps 1918



Unique Age Distribution of Military Mortality

- W curve peaked at age 28 except in military recruit camps were 18-20y predominated
- No general officers died of influenza; old soldiers spared
- Implies that distant influenza infections (1890) created a birth cohort effect 28y later



Most Deaths Were from Secondary Pneumonia

- Death due to secondary bacterial pneumonia not primary viral pneumonitis
- Most deaths occurred > 7 days after illness began, when lungs' defence against bacteria pathogens was dysfunctional until epithelium restored
- Secondary pneumonias due to common respiratory pathogens (S pneumoniae, H influenza, Staph aureus) varied by camp



Mortality Risk Factors in 1918

 Recent infections: infection early in 1918 protected against death but not infection

- <u>Distant events</u>: W mortality curve suggests cohort effect from early life infection during 1890 pandemic to create 28y old peak in 1918
- Epidemiological Isolation: Few previous respiratory infections increased risk of mortality in 1918
- Secondary bacterial infection: Dysfunctional immunity made person susceptible to bacterial pneumonia



Influenza Pandemic Study Group











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US Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD

Australian Defence Force Academy

Walter Reed Army Institute of Research

Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center

