



Eye on Influenza

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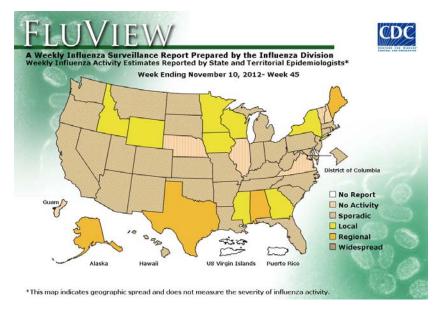
Influenza has been detected in Orange County! Now is the time to vaccinate. Influenza vaccine is available throughout the County. For publicly funded vaccine clinics, see www.ochealthinfo.com/flu. For retail locations, see the Flu Vaccine Finder at http://flushot.healthmap.org/

• Influenza - Orange County:

- o The first confirmed cases of locally-acquired influenza this season were recently reported. Thus far, influenza A\H3 and influenza B have been identified in the County, in addition to other respiratory viruses causing influenza-like illness (ILI) such as adenovirus, parainfluenza, and respiratory syncytial virus. Visits to sentinel physicians for ILI remain low.
- Reminder: Influenza-associated deaths in persons 0 to 64 years of age are reportable to Public Health by law by health care providers (Title 17, California Code of Regulations, Section 2500). In addition, we request reporting of influenza in persons 0 to 64 year requiring intensive care. Your reports help to monitor the severity of the influenza season and identify risk factors for severe illness. Fax reports to OC Epidemiology at 714-834-8196.

Influenza – California and United States

- o In California, influenza activity remained sporadic during week 45 (ending Nov 10). To date, 39 specimens (1.2%) submitted to Respiratory Laboratory Network have been positive for
 - influenza: 12 (30.8%) influenza B and 27 (69.2%) influenza A. Four specimens have been subtyped; all were A/H3.
- o In the United States, 7.5% of specimens were positive for influenza during week 45. The geographic spread of influenza in 4 states was reported as regional; 8 states reported local activity; the District of Columbia and 32 states reported sporadic activity (see map). Most of the isolates that have been characterized this season have been well matched to this year's vaccine. However, Victoria lineage influenza B viruses have been identified,



which are not a component of the 2012-13 influenza vaccine.

- CDC 2012-2013 Guidance for Use of Antivirals: Antiviral treatment with oseltamivir (Tamiflu ®) or zanamivir (Relenza ®) is recommended <u>as early as possible</u>, for any patient with confirmed or suspected influenza who
 - o is hospitalized;
 - o has severe, complicated, or progressive illness; or
 - o is at higher risk for influenza complications (see full report below).

Treatment should not be delayed pending diagnostic testing, and clinical decisions should not rely on rapid test results. While flu vaccination is the best way to prevent influenza, a history of vaccination does not rule out the possibility of infection in patients with compatible signs and symptoms. For complete recommendations, see http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/index.htm.

• Find CDC's latest recommendations and influenza activity updates on your iPad. A new CDC influenza application is available for clinicians and other healthcare professionals. Highlight, take notes, and bookmark content as well as share information with others through social media. Visit http://www.cdc.gov/flu/apps/cdc-influenza-hcp.html.