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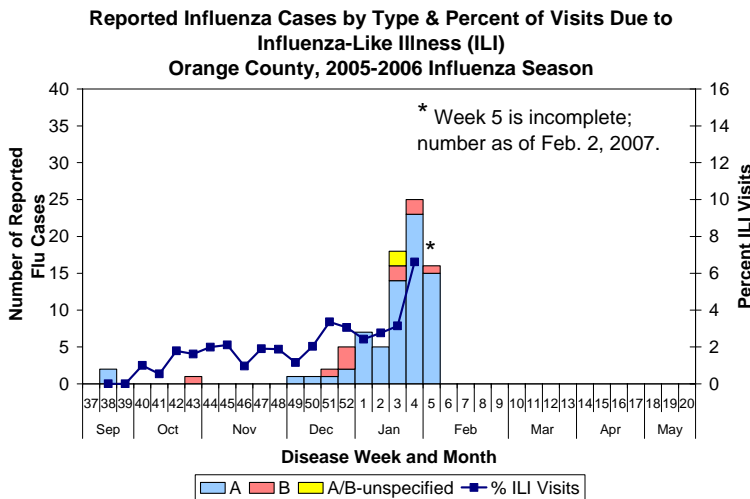
Due to increased influenza activity in Orange County, Eye on Influenza will now be issued weekly.

Consider influenza in your patients presenting with fever and/or respiratory symptoms.

Several types of influenza testing are available; see

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/diagnosis/labprocedures.htm> for more information.

- **Interim pre-pandemic planning guidance** on community mitigation strategies has been released by the CDC and HHS. The focus is on early, targeted, layered use of non-pharmaceutical interventions. A five-category Pandemic Severity Index (PSI) has been created to assist in decision-making. The full guidelines are available at <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/community/mitigation.html>.
- **Public service announcements (PSAs)** encouraging the public to learn about pandemic flu preparedness have been produced by HHS. The PSAs can be viewed online at <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>
- **First human case of H5N1 in Nigeria** was reported this week and is pending confirmation by the WHO. If confirmed, this would bring the total number of countries with confirmed human H5N1 cases to 11. See: http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/updates/en/index.html.



Orange County

- Since the last newsletter, 26 new influenza cases (24 A and 2 B) have been reported.
- Of the 82 total cases to date: 86% were A, 12% B, and 2% A/B-unspecified.
- Of the 33 subtyped flu A specimens: 64% were H1 and 36% were H3. Two influenza A (H1) specimens have been strain-typed as A/New Caledonia/20/99-like.**
- Three new cases of severe pediatric influenza have been reported this week; total cases thus far this season is four. All 4 tested positive for flu A.
- Increases in influenza-like illness activity seen by sentinel providers and anecdotal reports of increased absenteeism in schools have been received in the past week as well.

California and USA

- Influenza activity in California remained regional during week 4.
- A total of 13 severe pediatric influenza cases have been reported thus far in CA this season.

**Components of the 2006-2007 US flu vaccine:

- A (H1N1): A/New Caledonia/20/99-like
- A (H3N2): A/Wisconsin/67/2005-like
- B: B/Malaysia/2506/2004-like (equal to B/Ohio/01/2005-like).

Avian Influenza Update

- 270 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (6), China (22), Djibouti (1), Egypt (19), Indonesia (81)*, Iraq (3), Thailand (25), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (93), and have resulted in 164 (61%) deaths. A suspect case from Nigeria is awaiting WHO confirmation. H5N1-infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe. For a list of H5N1-affected countries, see <http://www.ochhealthinfo.com/epi/af/index.htm>.
*New reported case(s) since January 26th.
- Please contact OC Epidemiology immediately at 714-834-8180 to report any suspect avian influenza cases.

Recommended Resources

General: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>

OC: <http://www.ochhealthinfo.com/epi/flu/surveillance.htm>

CA: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Fluintro.htm>

CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weeklv/>; HHS: <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>

If you have any comments about the flyer, contact Pamela Roa Hipp or Alina Burgi at (714) 834-8180.

To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.