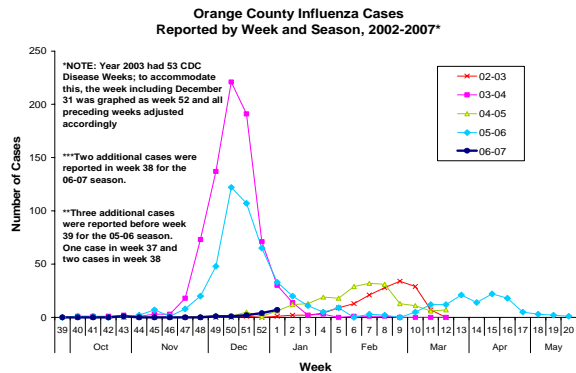




Orange County Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment, 1719 W. 17th St. Santa Ana, CA 92706, (714) 834-8180

Orange County influenza reports have increased since the last newsletter (12/29/06).

- **US FDA approves new refrigerated form of FluMist®:** The new formulation of FluMist®, the live-attenuated seasonal influenza vaccine for use in children and adults from ages 5 to 49 years, can be stored in the refrigerator rather than in the freezer. The new formulation will be available for the 2007-2008 influenza season. For more info: <http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=83037&p=irol-investornewsArticle&ID=947708&highlight=>.
- **Additional human H5N1 cases in Indonesia (3) and China (1):** See http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/ for the latest updates.
- **H5N1 positive wild bird found in Hong Kong:** This is the first positive bird reported in Hong Kong since February 2006. Hong Kong has not had any reported human cases since 1997. See <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/avianflu/news/jan0807birds.html>.
- **NIH (NIAID) begins human trial of DNA vaccine for H5N1:** DNA vaccines have been shown to be effective in preventing infection with influenza viruses in animal models. This new vaccine technology has the potential to improve production capacity for influenza vaccines. For more info: <http://www.nih.gov/news/pr/jan2007/niaid-02.htm>.
- **HHS awards contract to BioCryst Pharmaceuticals, Inc. for advanced development of new influenza antiviral drug, peramivir:** Peramivir is a neuraminidase inhibitor (similar drug class as oseltamivir and zanamivir) administered parenterally (IV or IM). For more information: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2007pres/20070104.html>.

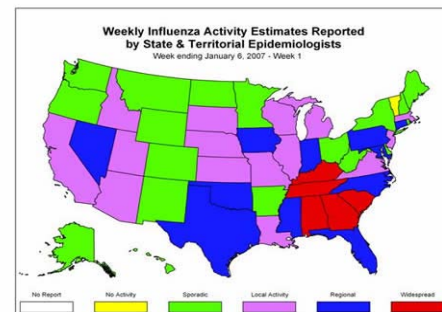


Orange County

- Since week 52 (week ending 12/29/06), 11 new influenza cases were reported in the last two weeks for a total of 18 cases this season. Fourteen (78%) cases were influenza A and four (22%) were influenza B.

California and USA

- California reported local influenza activity during week 1. Nationally, 81% of influenza detections were flu A and 19% were flu B. Of those subtyped, 96% were flu A (H1) and 4% were flu A (H3); 90% of the flu A (H1) viruses characterized were similar to A/New Caledonia/20/99-like and both A (H3) viruses were characterized as A/Wisconsin/67/2005-like. Of influenza B viruses characterized, 59% belong to the B/Victoria lineage and 41% to the B/Yamagata lineage.



Avian Influenza Update

- 265 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (6), China (22)*, Djibouti (1), Egypt (18), Indonesia (77)*, Iraq (3), Thailand (25), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (93), and have resulted in 159 (60%) deaths. H5N1-infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe. For a list of H5N1-affected countries, see <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/af/index.htm>.
*New reported case(s) since December 29th.
- Please contact OC Epidemiology immediately at 714-834-8180 to report any suspect avian influenza cases and we can assist with the appropriate testing.

Recommended Resources

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

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

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

CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>; 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.