This mid-season influenza report provides preliminary surveillance data on influenza activity in Sacramento County for the 2016-2017 influenza season. Reminder: The influenza masking mandate remains in effect as of 2/8/17.

**Figure 1. Percent of ILI Visits at Sentinel Provider Sites, 2016-2017 Influenza Season**

Sacramento County is receiving reports from two sentinel providers this influenza season. Based on the most current data available (Week 4), the percent of visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) ranged from 1.7% to 3.0% for Sentinel Provider 1 (SP1) with the highest percent of ILI visits during Week 50. For Sentinel Provider 2 (SP2), the percent of visits for ILI ranged from 0.3% to 1.7% with the highest percent of ILI visits during Week 2.

**Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory**

The Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory (SCPRL) performs influenza testing using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and viral culture. Among those who tested positive for influenza by PCR as of Week 4, 12 (92.3%) tested positive for influenza A (H3) and one (7.7%) tested positive for influenza B/Yamagata. Two outbreaks were also confirmed by PCR. No specimens were tested using viral culture.

For the current influenza season, the highest number of influenza detections were found during Week 1 compared to Week 5 during the 2014-2015 season. No notable peaks were seen for the 2015-2016 season.

Note: The number of influenza tests processed at SCPRL vary each season. Data excludes tests performed at commercial labs.

*The 2014-2015 season has a Week 53. Data have been shifted so that Week 1 aligns across all years.*
Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) has confirmed 15 cases of influenza-associated ICU admissions among those less than 65 years of age as of Week 4. The rate of influenza-associated ICU admissions has been the highest at Week 52 for this influenza season whereas it first peaked at Week 6 during the 2015-2016 season and Week 3 during the 2014-2015 season. SCPH has also confirmed two influenza-associated deaths among those less than 65 years of age.

**Figure 4. Incidence of Influenza-Associated ICU Hospitalizations among Persons <65 Years of Age (2014-2017)**

*The 2014-2015 season has a Week 53. Data have been shifted so that Week 1 aligns across all years.*

**STATE AND NATIONAL**

As of Week 4,
- The overall influenza activity in California is “widespread.”
- A total of 11,956 (18.5%) specimens have tested positive for influenza. Of these, 11,744 (98.2%) are influenza A [2,422 (20.6%) H3, 67 (0.6%) 2009 H1, 9,255 (78.8%) not subtyped] and 212 (1.8%) are influenza B.
- A total of 31 reports of laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated deaths among patients <65 years of age have been reported.
- A total of 127 laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreaks have been reported.
- Nationally, influenza A (H3) is the predominant influenza virus subtype this season.

**VACCINATION**

For the 2016-2017 influenza season,
- CDC recommends use of the flu shot (inactivated influenza vaccine or IIV) and the recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV). The nasal spray flu vaccine (live attenuated influenza vaccine or LAIV) is not available this season.
- The trivalent vaccine contains A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus, A/Hong Kong/4801/2014 (H3N2)-like virus, and B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus (B/Victoria lineage). The quadrivalent vaccine contains an additional B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus (B/Yamagata lineage).

It’s not too late to get vaccinated! For more information, contact SCPH’s Immunizations Assistance Program at (916) 875-7468 from Monday through Friday between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm.

For more information about the California Sentinel Provider Program, contact the Immunization Branch by phone at (510) 620-3737, email influenzaSurveillance@cdph.ca.gov, or visit https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/dcdc/Pages/CaliforniaSentinelProviderProgram.aspx.