

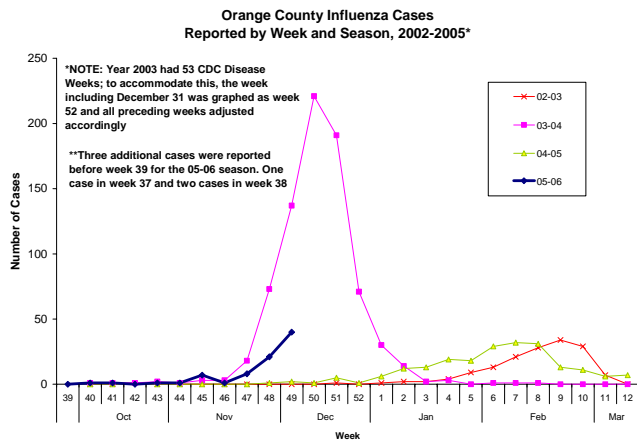


Orange County Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment, 1719 W. 17th St. Santa Ana, CA 92706, (714) 834-8180

This report includes information through 12/03/05 (CDC Disease Week 48).

Influenza reports in Orange County have dramatically increased over the past two weeks. All patients who present to a healthcare setting with fever and respiratory symptoms should be managed according to CDC's recommendations for [Respiratory Hygiene and Cough Etiquette](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/resphygiene.htm) (<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/resphygiene.htm>) and questioned regarding their recent travel history to screen for possible avian influenza.

- **Vaccine:** It's not too late to vaccinate and vaccine is still available in the County. For clinic locations, visit <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/public/flu/locations.htm> and <http://www.findaflushot.com>.
- **Influenza infection control guidelines for various settings:** The CDC has recommendations (<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/>) for outbreak control and prevention in various settings, including child care centers, acute care settings, and long term care facilities.
- **Pandemic planning:** A compilation of resources and information for clinicians to use in discussing pandemic influenza with patients and providing care in case of spread of this agent to the United States is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic/healthprofessional.htm>.



*Note: The number of confirmed cases does NOT correspond to the total number of cases occurring in OC as not all labs participate, the surveillance programs are not population based, and testing may be influenced by many factors such as public interest. However, the trends in influenza activity are likely to be reflected accurately.

Orange County*

- To date this season, we have received 113 reports of influenza in OC residents and one flu-associated death. 55 (48.7%) were children. 102 (90%) cases were influenza A; 100% of 9 isolates subtyped were A/H3N2. Two cases have been confirmed as influenza B. We have received reports of 5 OC children with severe influenza necessitating intensive care (PICU) admissions.
- Please report any pediatric cases of severe influenza (hospitalized in PICU) or pediatric flu-associated deaths to Epidemiology at 714-834-8180.

Avian Influenza Update

- As of December 14, 2005, 138 human cases of avian influenza H5N1 and 71 deaths have been reported from Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, China, and Cambodia since winter 2003. H5N1 infected birds have also been detected in Croatia, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Romania, Russia, Turkey, and possibly Ukraine.
- Clinicians should maintain a high index of suspicion for influenza A (H5N1) in patients with fever and respiratory symptoms arriving or returning from Asia. Suspect cases should be reported promptly to Epidemiology at 714-834-8180.

Additional Information:

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

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

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

USA: www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

California and USA

- During the week ending 12/3/05, influenza activity was low in the U.S.. Nebraska reported local activity and 29 states, New York City, and Puerto Rico reported sporadic activity. One pediatric flu-associated death has been reported in the U.S. this season; this was an OC resident.

