



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

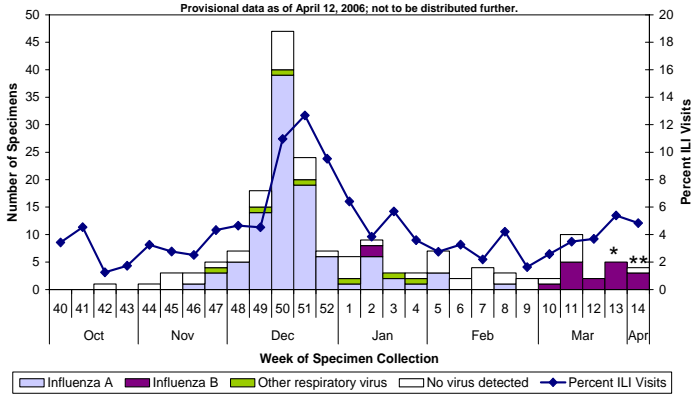
This report includes information through 4/14/2006

Orange County continues to see increases in reports of influenza B. 89% of cases in the past 6 weeks have been influenza B, compared with 1% in the first 24 weeks of the season. We have also received reports of increased school absenteeism for febrile respiratory illnesses.

- **Computer model examines strategies to mitigate a flu pandemic.** A study supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) tested the effect of different interventions on slowing the spread of flu with the goal that there would be time for a well-matched vaccine to be developed and distributed. The interventions included: mass vaccination (one or two doses of vaccine poorly matched to the emerging strain), targeted antiviral use (in infected individuals and others near them), school closures, and social distancing (such as quarantining households and restricting travel). Depending on how contagious the virus was, the results suggested that certain interventions and/or combinations of interventions could be effective in slowing transmission (Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2006;103(15):5935-40. Epub 2006 Apr 3; summary at <http://www.nigms.nih.gov/News/Results/FluModel040306>).
- **New World Health Organization (WHO) pandemic planning guidelines for humanitarian agencies.** "Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Mitigation in Refugee and Displaced Populations" can be viewed at http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/guidelines/avian2006-04-9.pdf.



Specimen Submission Results and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Visits
ILI Sentinel Providers, Orange County, 2005-2006 Influenza Season
Source: County of Orange, Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment
Provisional data as of April 12, 2006; not to be distributed further.



* Two additional specimens submitted, results pending ** Six additional specimens submitted, results pending

Orange County

- To date this season, we have received 536 (442 A/ 66 B /28 unspecified) reports of influenza in OC residents and three flu-associated deaths.
- The graph to the left summarizes influenza-like illness (ILI) reports and isolates submitted by our sentinel providers. THANKS! To volunteer, email epi@ochca.com or call 714-834-7894.

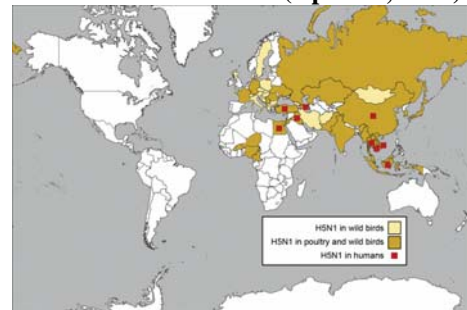
California and National

- For the week ending 4/8/06, influenza activity in California remained local. Overall flu activity decreased, but remained widespread or regional in northern and eastern states.
- In the U.S., 54% of flu isolates were type B, of which 64% were of the B/Victoria lineage; this lineage will be represented in the 2006-2007 vaccine.

Avian Influenza Update

- As of April 12, 2006, 194 human H5N1 cases and 109 deaths have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (6), China (16), Egypt (4), Indonesia (31), Iraq (2), Thailand (22), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (93). H5N1-infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe.
- For an up-to-date list of H5N1-affected countries, see <http://www.ochcahealthinfo.com/epi/af/index.htm>.

Nations with Confirmed Cases
H5N1 Avian Influenza (April 14, 2006)



Recommended Resources:

General: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu> **OC:** <http://www.ochcahealthinfo.com/epi/flu/surveillance.htm>
California: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Fluintro.htm> **USA:** <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

If you have any comments about the flyer, contact Pamela Roa Hipp or Sandra Nutter at (714) 834-8180. To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.