



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

Orange County has confirmed its first flu cases of the season. Two patients with influenza-like illness were reported from an Orange County sentinel provider this week and both tested positive for influenza A (H1N1) in our laboratory. We encourage health care provider to consider participating in our surveillance efforts, which take only a few minutes a week! Sentinel providers are critical to identify circulating strains of influenza in the county and to monitor the impact of influenza.

- **Influenza season is starting!** 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>
- **Prevention is key:** Prevent illness and disease by promoting proper respiratory hygiene in the healthcare setting. For posters, see: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/izgroup/pdf/imm783k.pdf> & http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/pdf/covercough_hcp11x17.pdf. For information on influenza vaccine, see <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/vaccination/>.
- **Consider antivirals** for your patients with influenza who are at risk for severe complications. Antivirals should be given within 48 hours of symptom onset to be effective. See <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/treatment/> for more information about the use of antivirals.
- **Update: Influenza Activity – United States and Worldwide:** see the 9/22/06 issue of MMWR at www.cdc.gov/mmwr/.
- **California Department Health of Services Pandemic Plan has been updated.** See <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/vaccination/> to view the plan.

Orange County is actively recruiting physicians and other healthcare providers to participate as sentinel providers for influenza-like illnesses for the upcoming influenza season. For more information, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.



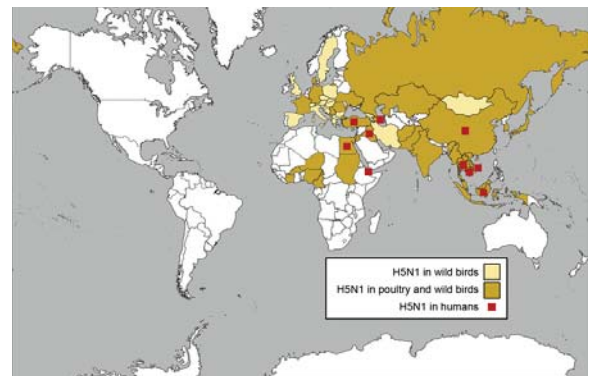
Recommended Resources

- 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>
CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>
HHS: <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>

Avian Influenza Update

- 247 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (6), China (21), Djibouti (1), Egypt (14), Indonesia (65)*, Iraq (3)*, Thailand (24), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (93), and have resulted in 144 deaths. H5N1-infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe.
*New reported cases since last update (September 8th).
- For an up-to-date list of H5N1-affected countries, see <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/af/index.htm>.
- Patients with fever and respiratory symptoms with history of travel to H5N1-affected countries within 10 days of illness onset should be reported immediately to OC Epidemiology at 714-834-8180.

Nations with Confirmed H5N1 Avian Influenza



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.