

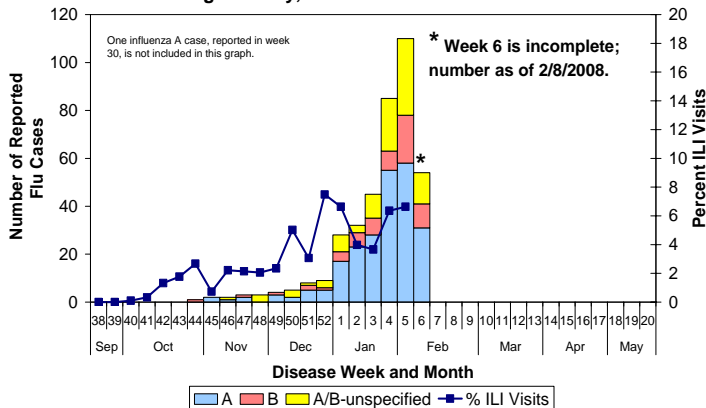


Orange County Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment, 1719 W. 17th St. Santa Ana, CA 92706, (714) 834-8180

Influenza activity is increasing in Orange County. Consider influenza in your patients presenting with fever and/or respiratory symptoms. Please inquire about recent travel (in the 10 days prior to symptom onset) to H5N1- affected countries and contact OC Epidemiology immediately at 714-834-8180 to report any suspect avian influenza cases.

- **It's not too late to vaccinate.** Influenza activity continues in Orange County and influenza viruses can still be circulating as late as May. Although some of the viruses characterized by the CDC thus far this season do not match the 2007-2008 influenza vaccine strains, **vaccination still may provide cross-protection against the drifted strains, and many of the circulating viruses are a good match for the other components of the vaccine.**
 - Of the 197 influenza viruses characterized this season, the majority (n=101, 51%) have been influenza A (H1N1). Of which, 97 (96%) were characterized as A/Solomon Islands/3/2006, the influenza A (H1N1) component of the 2007-08 influenza vaccine.
 - Fifty-three (27%) of the 197 influenza viruses characterized thus far this season have been influenza A (H3N2). The A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2)-like strain made up 87% (n=46) of the 53 type A (H3N2) isolates characterized. A/Brisbane/10/2007-like strain is a recent antigenic variant that emerged from the A/Wisconsin/67/2005-like strain, which is the H3N2 component of this season's vaccine. The A/Brisbane strain emerged at the end of Australia's flu season, too late to be included in the flu vaccine for the Northern Hemisphere. According to the WHO, the A/Brisbane-like strain is recommended for the 2008 Southern Hemisphere vaccine.
 - Forty-three (22%) of the 197 influenza viruses characterized this season have been influenza B. The B/Yamagata/16/88 lineage of viruses made up 93% (n=40) of the influenza B isolates characterized. B/Yamagata lineage viruses are not a component of the 2007-08 influenza vaccine. For more info, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>.

Reported Influenza Cases by Type & Percent of Visits Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)
Orange County, 2007-2008 Influenza Season



Orange County, California, and U.S. **

- To date, there have been 392 total reported influenza cases in OC; 233 A, 61 B, & 98 A/B unspecified. Of the 233 influenza A, 93 have been subtyped: 46 A/H1 and 47 A/H3.
- To date, there have been 11 reported severe pediatric influenza (PICU) cases in OC, 9A and 2 B.
- Influenza activity continues to increase in the U.S. in week 5 (ending 2/2/08) with 31 states reporting widespread activity and 11 states including CA reporting regional activity. Deaths for pneumonia and influenza and outpatient visits for influenza-like illness are above baseline levels. Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) resistance has been reported in 8.1% of H1N1 isolates tested.

**Note: The number of reported 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.

Avian Influenza Update (as of Feb. 5th)

- 359 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (7), China (27), Djibouti (1), Egypt (43), Indonesia (126), Iraq (3), Lao People's Democratic Republic (2), Myanmar (1), Nigeria (1), Pakistan (1), Thailand (25), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (102), and have resulted in 226 (63%) deaths. Infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe.

Recommended Resources
 CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>
 OC: <http://www.ochca.com/epi/flu/surveillance.htm>
 CA: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Fluintro.htm>
 HHS: <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/> General: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>

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