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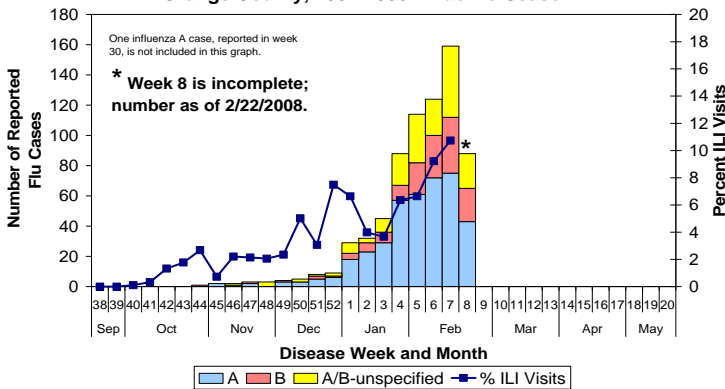
Influenza activity is reported as widespread in CA and increasing in Orange County. Consider influenza in your patients presenting with fever and/or respiratory symptoms.

- **FDA advisory panel votes unanimously to adopt WHO recommendations for 2008-09 Northern Hemisphere influenza vaccine.** Last week U.S. health officials reported mismatches between the influenza A/H3N2 and B components of the 2007-08 influenza vaccine and circulating strains. Although the CDC has not reported a mismatch yet with the A/H1N1 vaccine component in the U.S., WHO has reported that the majority of recent A/H1N1 isolates globally have not matched well with the vaccine. WHO recommends replacing all three components of the 2008-09 Northern Hemisphere influenza vaccine with the following:
 - An H1N1 strain similar to A/Brisbane/59/2007 (replacing A/Solomon Islands/3/2006).
 - An H3N2 strain similar to A/Brisbane/10/2007 (replacing A/Wisconsin/67/2005).
 - A B strain similar to B/Florida/4/2006 (replacing B/Malaysia 2506/2004).

See <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/general/news/feb2208vaccine.html>.

- **HHS advisor contributes to Flu Wiki conversation forum.** Dr. William Raub, science advisor to HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt, provided answers to questions about shared responsibility, vaccine allocation, new vaccine technologies, antiviral technologies, community mitigation, and international cooperation from the Flu Wiki community, an online resource and community forum. For more information, visit <http://www.newfluwiki2.com/showDiary.do?diaryId=2179>.
- **The Great Pandemic: The United States in 1918-1919.** Learn more about life during the pandemic at this US Department of Health and Human Services website: <http://1918.pandemicflu.gov/index.htm>.

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 717 total reported influenza cases in OC; 401 A, 141 B, & 175 A/B unspecified. Of the 401 influenza A, 116 have been subtyped: 51 A/H1 and 65 A/H3.
- To date, there have been 16 reported severe pediatric influenza (PICU) cases, including one death in OC; 11 tested positive for flu A and 5 B.
- Influenza activity continues to increase in the U.S. in week 7 (ending 2/16/08) with 49 states reporting widespread activity, including CA. Approximately 50% of influenza isolates characterized in the U.S. do not match components of this season's vaccine, although some cross-protection is still expected for some strains. Deaths for pneumonia and influenza and outpatient visits for influenza-like illness continue above baseline levels.

**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. 21st)

- 365 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (7), China (28), Djibouti (1), Egypt (43), Indonesia (129), Iraq (3), Lao People's Democratic Republic (2), Myanmar (1), Nigeria (1), Pakistan (1), Thailand (25), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (104), and have resulted in 231 (63%) deaths. Infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe.
- Report any suspect avian influenza cases to OC Epidemiology at 714-834-8180.

Recommended Resources
 CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>
 OC: <http://www.ochcahealthinfo.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.

