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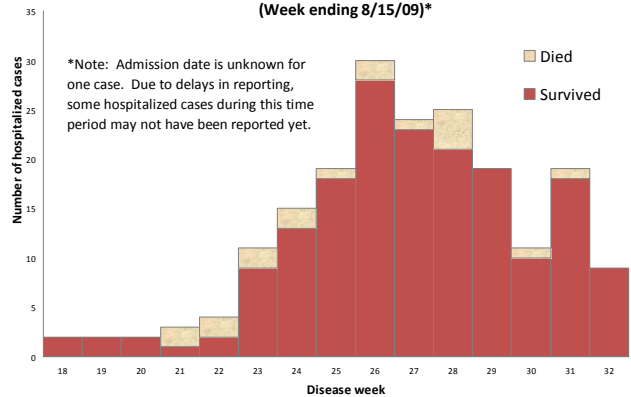
## Pandemic H1N1 (2009) Influenza Update

- **Orange County (OC) update:** As of August 18, 2009, 193 hospitalized cases of pandemic H1N1 influenza and 16 fatalities have been reported in OC residents. **99% of the influenza subtyped at OC Public Health since late May has been pandemic H1N1.**
- **CDC updates guidance for businesses and employers for the 2009-2010 influenza season.** See [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/business/guidance](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/business/guidance) for the full guidance. Key messages include:

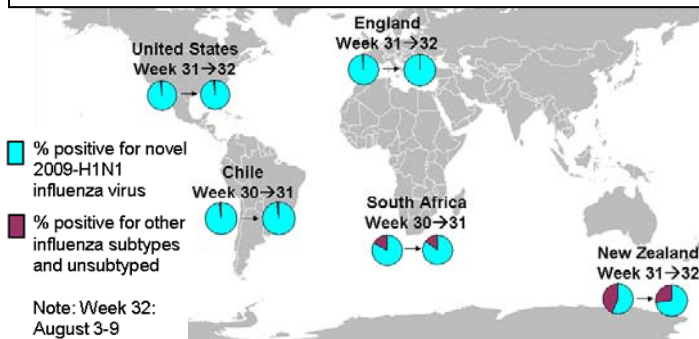
### Actions to take now

- All persons with influenza-like illness should stay home and away from the workplace for at least 24 hours after fever resolves and temperature remains normal without the use of fever-reducing medications, and regardless of whether antivirals have been started.
  - Ensure that sick leave policies are flexible and consistent with public health guidance.
  - Do not require a doctor's note for workers ill with influenza-like illness to validate illness as these requests may overwhelm medical facilities.
- Encourage respiratory etiquette and handwashing.
- Ensure that routine cleaning of commonly touched surfaces is performed regularly.
- Prepare for school dismissal or temporary closure of child care programs.

2009 Reported Pandemic H1N1-Associated Hospitalizations by Disease Week of Admission for Orange County Residents through Week 32 (Week ending 8/15/09)\*



### International Co-circulation of Novel and Seasonal Influenza, as of 8/14/09. Source: CDC



### Actions to consider if severity increases

- Screen employees for illness when they report to work.
- Evaluate alternate work environments for employees at higher risk of complications of influenza.
- Implement social distancing in the workplace (goal  $\geq 6$  feet of distance between people).
  - Avoid crowded work settings and space workers farther apart.
  - Cancel non-essential face-to-face meetings.
  - Allow teleworking and/or staggered shifts
  - Cancel non-essential business travel.

- **CDPH recommends promoting use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers by students in California schools.** Hand sanitizers should contain at least 60% alcohol and can be used safely in the classroom if a few simple precautions are in place. See [www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/swine/index.htm](http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/swine/index.htm) (Additional Resources).
- **Oseltamivir-resistant novel influenza A (H1N1).** Two severely immunosuppressed patients with novel H1N1 infection in Seattle, WA, developed resistance to oseltamivir (Tamiflu<sup>®</sup>) while on treatment. Prolonged viral shedding has been reported in immunosuppressed patients with influenza and strict adherence to recommended infection control measures is advised until serial respiratory specimens remain negative by culture and polymerase chain reaction testing. Additional sporadic cases of oseltamivir-resistant novel H1N1 have been reported; all resistant viruses have been susceptible to zanamivir and no ongoing transmission has been noted. See [www.cdc.gov/mmwr](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr), August 21, 2009 issue.
- **Cal/OSHA Aerosol Transmissible Diseases (ATD) Standard, effective 8/5/09, requires that all health care settings, when providing care to a patient identified as a confirmed or suspect pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza case, use respiratory protection that is at least effective as an N95 filtering facepiece respirator.** Questions about the application of the standard should be directed to Cal/OSHA. Federal guidance is in flux and updates are expected after the Institute of Medicine recommendations 9/1/09.

*If you have any comments about this flyer, contact Michele Cheung, MD MPH, at (714) 834-8180.*

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