



**County of Sacramento**

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**INFLUENZA HEALTH ADVISORY**  
**October 1, 2017**

**Situational Update**

The 2017/2018 influenza season officially starts on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. The California Conference of Local Health Officers has recommended a standardized implementation timeframe for healthcare personnel to either receive the influenza vaccine or wear a mask in the healthcare setting during the influenza season as *November 1<sup>st</sup> through May 20<sup>th</sup>* based on science regarding influenza transmission patterns and expert guidelines. Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) will be implementing the masking mandate on November 1, 2017 in accordance with the recommended start date.

**Actions Requested of Healthcare Systems and Clinicians:**

1. **Offer** the influenza vaccine to all healthcare workers, especially those with direct patient contact.
2. **Encourage** influenza vaccination for any patient six months of age and older. Also encourage pneumococcal vaccination for patients and healthcare workers at an increased risk for pneumococcal disease.
3. **Implement** infection control precautions as appropriate.
4. **Treat** with antivirals (oseltamivir, zanamivir, or peramivir) **as early as possible** for any patient with confirmed or suspected influenza who:
  - is hospitalized;
  - has severe, complicated, or progressive illness; or
  - is at higher risk for influenza complications.
5. **Report** to SCPH electronically – via CalREDIE or confidential fax at (916) 854-9709 – the following laboratory-confirmed influenza cases:
  - *Intensive Care Unit (ICU)* cases under 65 years old
  - *Deaths* under 65 years old
  - *Novel strains* of influenza (e.g., Avian influenza H7N9) regardless of age, hospitalization, or vital status
  - *Outbreaks* of influenza

Medical records (e.g., H&P, labs, discharge summary, maternal vaccine) for ICU and fatal cases under age 65 years old should be uploaded into the CalREDIE filing cabinet or sent via confidential fax (916) 854-9709.

For information about influenza, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm> or the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) website at [https://archive.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Pages/Influenza\(Flu\).aspx](https://archive.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Pages/Influenza(Flu).aspx). Contact the CDPH Immunization Branch at [InfluenzaSurveillance@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:InfluenzaSurveillance@cdph.ca.gov) or 510-620-3737 for information about becoming an influenza sentinel provider. For information about immunization services or client referrals to influenza clinics, please contact the Sacramento County Immunization Assistance Program at 916-875-SHOT (7468).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Olivia Kasirye MD".

Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS  
Public Health Officer