



County of Sacramento

INFLUENZA HEALTH ADVISORY
November 1, 2017

Situational Update

The 2017/2018 influenza season officially began on Sunday, October 1st. One influenza-related ICU admission in a patient less than 65 years old has been reported to Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) so far. Following recommendations from the California Conference of Local Health Officers, SCPH is implementing the influenza masking mandate policy for all healthcare workers with direct patient contact as of November 1, 2017.

Actions Requested of Healthcare Systems and Clinicians:

1. **Implement masking policy** for all healthcare workers with *direct patient contact*.
2. **Offer** the influenza vaccine to all healthcare workers, especially those with direct patient contact.
3. **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.
4. **Implement** infection control precautions as appropriate.
5. **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.
6. **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 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,

Handwritten signature of Olivia Kasirye MD.

Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS
Public Health Officer