



County of Sacramento

INFLUENZA HEALTH ADVISORY
February 6, 2018

Situational Update

Although influenza activity has been decreasing, it remains “widespread” in California according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) definition (<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm>). Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) has confirmed 50 cases of influenza-associated intensive care unit (ICU) admissions and five influenza-associated deaths among those less than 65 years old as of 1/27/2018. The influenza masking mandate remains in effect. Please see the actions requested of healthcare systems and clinicians below.

Actions Requested of Healthcare Systems and Clinicians:

1. **Continue** enforcement of 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 patients six months of age and older and pneumococcal vaccination for patients and healthcare workers at an increased risk for pneumococcal disease.
4. **Implement** infection control precautions as appropriate.
5. **Treat** patients with suspected or confirmed influenza who are hospitalized, severely ill, or at higher risk for as soon as possible with neuraminidase inhibitor antiviral agent, such as zanamivir and oseltamivir. A list of patients at higher risk of complications can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/disease/high_risk.htm.
6. **Report** to SCPH electronically – via CalREDIE or confidential fax at (916) 854-9709 – the following laboratory-confirmed influenza cases:
 - **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.

Visit the CDC’s website <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm> or the California Department of Public Health’s (CDPH) website [https://archive.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Pages/Influenza\(Flu\).aspx](https://archive.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Pages/Influenza(Flu).aspx) for more information about influenza. If you are interested in becoming an influenza sentinel provider, contact the CDPH Immunization Branch at InfluenzaSurveillance@cdph.ca.gov or 510-620-3737.. 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,

Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS
Public Health Officer