



County of Sacramento

INFLUENZA HEALTH ADVISORY – BEGIN MASKING MANDATE

November 1, 2018

Situational Update

The 2018/2019 influenza season officially started on Sunday, September 30th. As a reminder, Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) has revised its reporting requirements (see below). The masking mandating policy is in effect as of November 1, 2018.

Actions Requested of Health Care Systems and Clinicians:

1. **Implement** masking mandate immediately for all health care workers with *direct patient contact* who have not been immunized for the 2018/2019 influenza season.
2. **Offer** the influenza vaccine to all health care workers, especially those with direct patient contact.
3. **Ensure** ill health care workers remain home and do not go to work.
4. **Encourage** influenza vaccination for any patient six months of age and older who do not have a medical contraindication for receiving the vaccination. Also encourage pneumococcal vaccination for patients and health care workers at an increased risk for pneumococcal disease.
5. **Implement** infection control precautions as appropriate.
6. **Treat** with antivirals (e.g., oseltamivir, zanamivir, peramivir) as early as possible any patient confirmed or suspected to have influenza who:
 - is hospitalized;
 - has severe, complicated, or progressive illness; or
 - is at higher risk for influenza complications.
7. **Report** electronically to SCPH – via CalREDIE or confidential fax at (916) 854-9709 – the following laboratory-confirmed influenza cases:
 - **Intensive care unit (ICU)** cases of **all ages**
 - **Deaths** of **all ages**
 - **Novel influenza viruses** regardless of age, hospitalization, or vital status
 - **Outbreaks**

Medical records (e.g., admission notes, laboratory results, discharge summary, vaccination information) for **all** ICU and fatal cases should be uploaded into the CalREDIE filing cabinet or sent via confidential fax to (916) 854-9709.

For information about influenza, visit the CDC's website at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm> or the CDPH website at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Influenza.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, contact the Sacramento County Immunization Assistance Program at 916-875-SHOT (7468).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS.

Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS
Public Health Officer