



# Eye on Influenza

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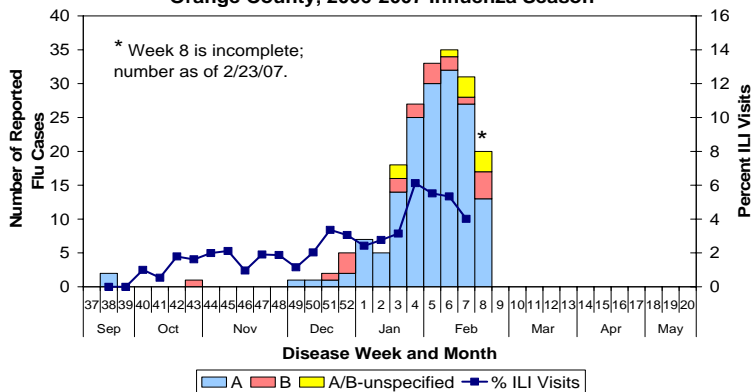
Orange County Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment, 1719 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St. Santa Ana, CA 92706, (714) 834-8180

**Influenza reports in Orange County appear to have peaked during week 6 (week ending 2/10/07) and are decreasing. However, second peaks late in the season are not uncommon, especially with influenza B.**

**Please continue to consider influenza in your patients with fever and respiratory symptoms.**

- **Recommendations for influenza virus vaccine composition for 2007-2008.** For the first time since 2000-01, WHO has recommended that the A/H1N1 component of the Northern Hemisphere vaccine be changed. Analysis of circulating H1N1 strains showed an increasing proportion were more closely related to the A/Solomon Islands/3/2006 strain than the previously recommended New Caledonia strain. The recommendations for the A/H3N2 and B components of the vaccine have not changed. The CDC and FDA usually issue their own recommendations following those from the WHO. See <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/general/news/feb2107vaccine.html>.
- **As Lunar New Year celebrations come to a close,** travelers returning from H5N1-affected areas should monitor their symptoms for 10 days. If fever and respiratory symptoms develop, contact OC Epidemiology immediately at 714-834-8180 to report any suspect avian influenza cases.
- **NIH genome mapping on over 2,000 human and avian influenza viruses complete.** The publicly accessible data will aid in the development of new flu vaccines, therapies and diagnostics. For additional information, see <http://www3.niaid.nih.gov/news/newsreleases/2007/flu2000.htm>.
- **H5N1 poultry outbreaks in Russia** have been confirmed about 1,000 miles south of Moscow. See <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/avianflu/news/feb1907russia.html>.
- **American Public Health Association (APHA) Prescription for Pandemic Flu** policy summary available at <http://www.apha.org/advocacy/policy/APHA+Prescription+for+Pandemic+Flu.htm>.

Reported Influenza Cases by Type & Percent of Visits Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)  
Orange County, 2006-2007 Influenza Season



## Orange County\*\*

- Since the last newsletter, 35 new influenza cases (27 A, 5 B & 3 A/B unspecified) have been reported.
- Of the 188 total reported cases to date: 85% were A, 10% B, and 5% A/B-unspecified.
- Of the 79 subtyped flu A specimens, 65% were H1 and 35% were H3.
- One new case of severe pediatric influenza was reported this week for a total of 6 cases to date (all positive for flu A).

\*\*Note: The number of reported cases does NOT correspond to the total number of cases occurring in OC as not all labs participate, the surveillance programs are not population based, and testing may be influenced by many factors such as public interest. However, the trends in influenza activity are likely to be reflected accurately.

## Avian Influenza Update

- 274 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (6), China (22), Djibouti (1), Egypt (22)\*, Indonesia (81), Iraq (3), Nigeria (1), Thailand (25), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (93), and have resulted in 167 (61%) deaths. H5N1-infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe. For a list of H5N1-affected countries, see <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/af/index.htm>.

\*New reported case(s) since February 16th.

## California and USA

- Influenza activity remains regional in CA although it is widespread in 24 other states.
- Nationally, 84% of influenza viruses tested this season have been A and 16% B. Of the subtyped flu A viruses, 87% were H1 and 13% were H3. For information on the specific strain types circulating, see <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>.

### Recommended Resources

General: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>; OC: <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/flu/surveillance.htm>; CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>; CA: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Fluintro.htm>; HHS: <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>

If you have any comments about the flyer, contact Alina Burgi or Pamela Roa Hipp at (714) 834-8180. To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at [epi@ochca.com](mailto:epi@ochca.com).