
Influenza Surveillance Report – Week Ending October 24th
Genesee County, MI
October 28, 2009

Genesee County Influenza Surveillance

- **Surveillance:** Surveillance in Genesee County indicates we are currently experiencing influenza activity comparable to levels seen during the peak of the 2008-2009 influenza season. Visits to emergency departments due to respiratory and constitutional complaints continue to rise.
- **Lab-confirmed cases:** Reports of confirmed influenza cases among Genesee County residents increased sharply for the week ending October 24th. Twelve (12) cases of confirmed H1N1 influenza were reported in the week ending October 24th bringing the total cases of confirmed H1N1 influenza cases to 14. The age range of these recent confirmed H1N1 cases is 6 to 43 years, with 86% ages 5 to 24 years.
- **Hospitalizations/deaths:** Four hospitalizations with confirmed influenza have been reported in Genesee County to date during the 2009-2010 influenza season. No deaths due to the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus have been reported in Genesee County residents to date.
- **Local Colleges and Universities:** Low levels of influenza-like illness observed in students for the week ending October 24th.
- **Genesee County Schools and Childcare Centers:** Rates of influenza-like illness increased 124% for the week ending October 24th from the prior week (4.5% ILI vs. 2.0% ILI). Rates of influenza-like illness among schools and childcare centers are at levels normally seen at the peak of the influenza season. Several school districts are reporting absences near 20% in some buildings. One private school with 107 students closed on Monday October 19th due to staff absences. The school reopened on October 20th.

H1N1 Vaccine Update

- Limited amounts of the nasal spray form of 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine and multi-dose vials of injectable 2009 H1N1 vaccine continue to be allotted to Genesee County as more becomes available.
- Until the H1N1 vaccine supply is more plentiful, the Genesee County Health Department is prioritizing vaccination of groups who are most at risk as stated by ACIP guidelines. These groups are:
 - pregnant women,
 - caregivers/contacts of children under 6 months,
 - children and young adults 6 months through 24 years,
 - adults 25 – 64 years with underlying medical conditions, and
 - EMS and health care workers
- School-based vaccine clinics for priority groups are being planned. The tentative schedule will be posted on the GCHD website soon.
- The Genesee County Health Department is distributing vaccine to many Genesee County providers this week in order to reach our highest risk populations as soon as possible.
- The Genesee County Health Department will hold free H1N1 vaccine clinics to offer the nasal spray for those in the following priority groups who are able to receive the nasal spray.
 - Children and young adults 2 through 24 years of age.
 - People 25 through 49 years of age ONLY if they live with or care for infants less than 6 months of age.
 - Health care or emergency medical personnel (under 50 years of age).

One clinic will be held at the Genesee County Health Department – Burton Branch on Thursday, October 29 from 5pm – 7pm. (G-3373 S. Saginaw Street, Burton, MI 48529) Another clinic will be held at the Genesee County Health Department – McCree North Branch on Saturday, October 31st from 10am – 12pm.

The most recent information about H1N1 Influenza can be found at www.gchd.us