
Influenza Surveillance Report – Week Ending December 11th
Genesee County, MI
December 16, 2009

Genesee County Influenza Surveillance

- **Surveillance:** Surveillance in Genesee County indicates influenza activity during the week ending December 11th continues to decline. The level of influenza-like illness continues to be comparable to what is normally observed during this time of year. Emergency department visits due to both constitutional and respiratory complaints have stabilized and continue to be similar to what is normally observed during this time of year. Fewer hospitalizations due to influenza-like illness were reported. All subtyped influenza cases in Genesee County to date for the 2009-2010 influenza season have been the 2009 H1N1 influenza strain.
- **Lab-confirmed cases:** Two (2) new cases of confirmed H1N1 influenza were reported in the week ending December 11th bringing the total cases of confirmed H1N1 influenza cases to 253. Clinicians continue to be encouraged to use clinical judgment and local surveillance data for influenza and other respiratory pathogens to consider the differential diagnosis of patients presenting with influenza-like illness and do not necessarily have to order diagnostic testing. Individual cases of suspected or probable H1N1 influenza in outpatient settings are not required to be reported.
- **Hospitalizations/deaths:** There were no confirmed cases of severe and/or hospitalized patients due to 2009 H1N1 influenza among Genesee County residents during the week ending December 11th. Few hospitalizations due to influenza-like illness were reported. No new deaths associated with 2009 H1N1 influenza were reported during this week.
- **Local Colleges and Universities:** Low levels of influenza-like illness were observed in college and university students and staff for the week ending December 11th.
- **Genesee County Schools and Childcare Centers:** The rate of influenza-like illness among children in schools and childcare centers increased 30% from the previous week during the week ending December 11th. This influenza-like illness activity is similar to what is observed during this time of year. Among the 21 school districts, 6 (29%) experienced increased levels of influenza like illness compared to the previous week and 1 (5%) experienced a decrease, while 14 (67%) experienced no significant change in reported influenza-like illnesses. Student absences remain at levels similar to those normally observed during this time of year. No school closings due to illness or absences were reported this week.

H1N1 Vaccine Update

- As of Monday, December 14th vaccine is no longer limited to priority populations and is available to anyone who wishes to receive the 2009 H1N1 vaccine. The GCHD continues to encourage priority groups as well as the general public to receive vaccine.
- Vaccination locations continue to expand within Genesee County. The GCHD continues to offer 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine during regular business hours at the Burton Branch location. School-based vaccine clinics for continue in Genesee County. McLaren Visiting Nurse and Hospice will begin to hold vaccine clinics for the general public at Senior Citizen Centers throughout Genesee County. Pharmacies and other locations in Genesee County are offering 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine during scheduled hours.
- For details on vaccination clinics including locations and times visit <http://www.gchd.us/HotTopics/H1N1FluClinicLocations.asp>

Antiviral Distribution

- The GCHD continues to distributing Tamiflu from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) to pharmacies in Genesee County. Relenza has not been distributed.
- A total of twelve (12) pharmacies throughout Genesee County have now received Tamiflu from the SNS. For the most recent list of pharmacies call (810) 257-3833 or visit <http://www.gchd.us/HotTopics/H1N1Flu.asp>
- All doses from the SNS are free of charge to underinsured or uninsured patients. A prescription from a health care provider is required to receive antivirals.