



Public Health Update

October 1, 2018

2018 – 2019 Influenza Season Kick-Off

The Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD), Office of Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance (OEDS), has begun surveillance for the 2018 – 2019 influenza season. Surveillance extends from October 1, 2018 through May 18, 2019. Weekly influenza surveillance reports will be distributed throughout the coming months. The weekly reports will contain information on influenza and trends seen in Clark County, as well as the nation. All healthcare providers shall report influenza cases that are laboratory confirmed to SNHD.

How to report influenza cases to SNHD?

There are two ways to report an influenza case:

1. Report online by completing the Online Provider Disease Reporting Form at <https://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/diseasereports/forms/disease-reporting> (Recommended).
2. Complete and fax the State of Nevada Confidential Morbidity Report Form to (702) 759-1414. <https://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/download/epi/nv-morbidity-form.pdf>

What's new this flu season?

According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a few things are new this season (1):

- Flu vaccines have been updated to better match circulating viruses.
- The nasal spray flu vaccine (live attenuated influenza vaccine or “LAIV”) is again a recommended option for use in non-pregnant individuals and 2 years through 49 years of age. There is a precaution against the use of LAIV for people with certain underlying medical conditions. All LAIV will be quadrivalent (four-component).
- Most regular-dose egg-based flu shots will be quadrivalent.
- All recombinant vaccine will be quadrivalent.
- Cell-grown flu vaccine will be quadrivalent.
- No intradermal flu vaccine will be available.
- The age recommendation for “Fluarix Quadrivalent” was changed from 3 years old and older to 6 months and older.
- The age recommendation for Afluria Quadrivalent was changed from 18 years old and older to 5 years old and older.

Where can I get the flu vaccine?

The Health District is offering flu shots at its clinics. Please arrive by 4 p.m. to allow time for processing:

- Main Public Health Center, 280 S. Decatur Blvd., Las Vegas
Monday — Friday, 8 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.
- East Las Vegas Public Health Center, 560 N. Nellis Blvd., Suite E12, Las Vegas
Monday — Friday, 8 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.
- Southern Nevada Health District Henderson Clinic, 874 American Pacific Dr., Henderson
Monday — Thursday, 8 a.m. — 4:30 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Closed daily 1 p.m. — 2 p.m.
By appointment only. Call (702) 759-0960.
- Mesquite Public Health Center, 830 Hafen Lane, Mesquite
Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. — 4:30 p.m. Closed noon — 1 p.m.

If you have any questions on influenza or influenza surveillance, please contact OEDS at (702) 759-1300.

Sincerely,

SOUTHERN NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT



Joseph P. Iser, MD, DrPH, MSc
Chief Health Officer

Attachment: State of Nevada Confidential Morbidity Report Form

References:

1. Centers for Disease Control Prevention. Frequently Asked Flu Questions 2018 – 2019 Influenza Season. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/flu-season-2018-2019.htm>

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action

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