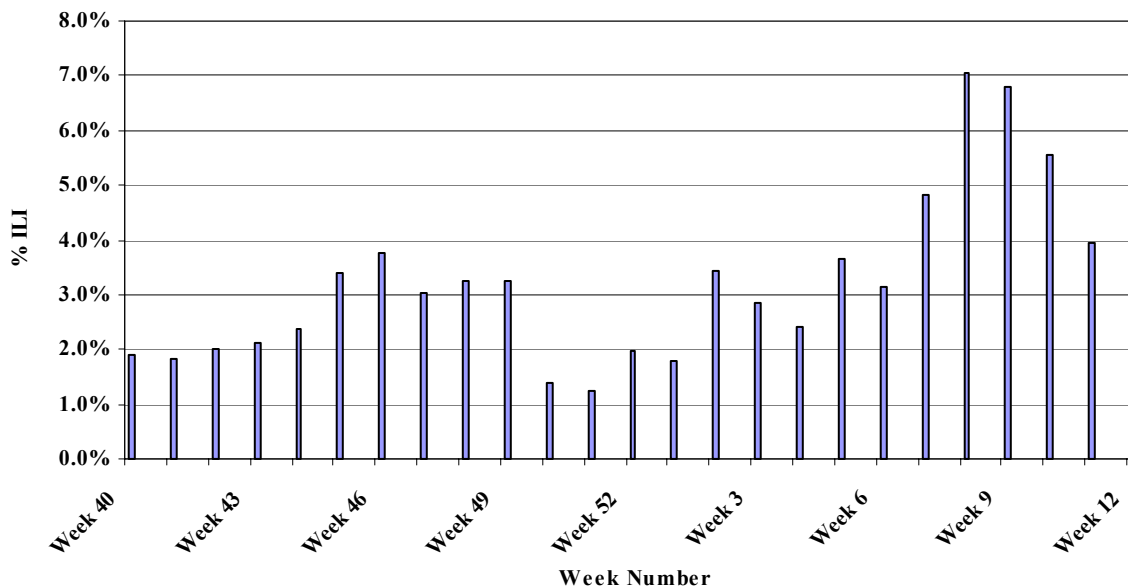


Date: March 27, 2003
To: Health Care Provider
From: Salena Savarda, BS, Epidemiologist
Subject: Influenza Report for Week 12 (March 16-22, 2003)

Criteria for inclusion as a case of Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) are fever $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ (37.8°C) and cough or sore throat. Health care providers wishing to participate in the ongoing Clark County Health District (CCHD) Influenza Surveillance Program should contact Salena Savarda, Surveillance Coordinator, at (702) 383-1378.

Two hundred twenty-seven cases of ILI were reported during week 12. The weighted average over the seven reporting sites was **2.9%**, which is above the national baseline of 1.9%. The percentage of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) in Las Vegas was **5.5%**. The national P&I mortality for week 12 is not yet available. The national P&I mortality for week 11 was 7.8%.

**Percentage of Influenza-Like Illnesses (ILI) Cases By Week
Weighted Average, Weeks 40-52, 2002 and Weeks 1-12, 2003**



As of March 27, 2003, there have been no reported cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in Clark County. The etiology of the disease is still under investigation; however, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced on March 24, that a previously unrecognized virus from the coronavirus family is the leading hypothesis for the cause of SARS. CCHD is requesting that clinicians notify the Office of Epidemiology of any suspected case of SARS at 383-1378. Below is the CDC interim case definition for SARS as updated on March 22, 2003.

Respiratory illness of unknown etiology with onset since February 1, 2003, and the following criteria:

- Documented temperature $>100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ ($>38.0^{\circ}\text{C}$)
- One or more clinical findings of respiratory illness (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, hypoxia or radiographic findings of either pneumonia or acute respiratory distress syndrome)
- Close contact[†] within 10 days of onset of symptoms with either a person with a respiratory illness and travel to a SARS area or a person under investigation for or suspected of having SARS[§].
- Travel within 10 days of onset of symptoms to an area with suspected or documented transmission of SARS (excluding areas with secondary cases limited to health-care workers or direct household contacts).

[§] Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region and Guangdong province, China, Hanoi, Vietnam, and Singapore.
[†] Defined as having cared for, having lived with, or having had direct contact with respiratory secretions and/or body fluids of a person suspected of having SARS.