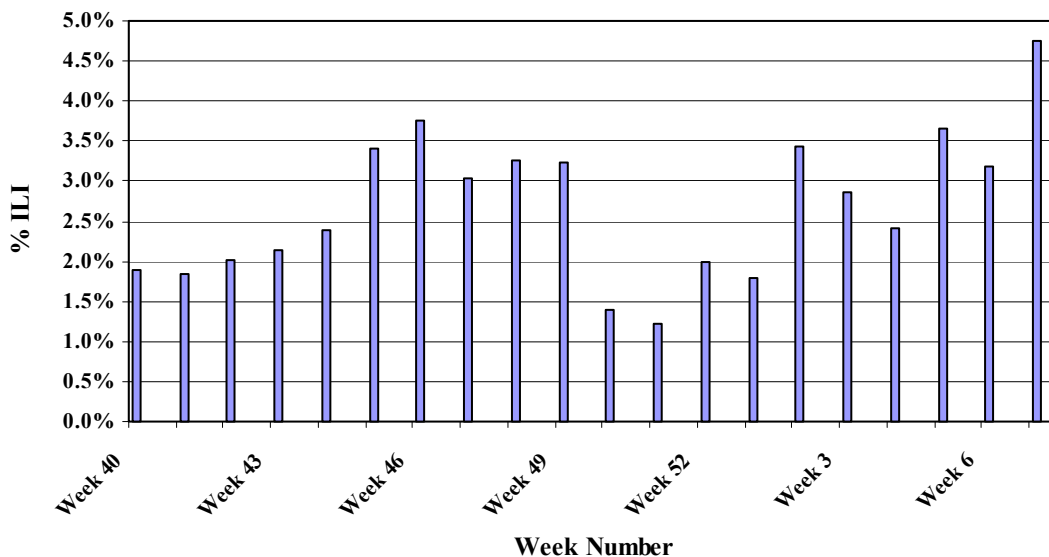


Date: February 21, 2003
To: Health Care Provider
From: Linh Nguyen, MPH, Epidemiologist
Subject: Influenza Report for Week 7 (February 9-15, 2003)

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 Linh Nguyen, Surveillance Coordinator, at (702) 383-1378.

Three hundred and eleven cases of ILI were reported during week 7. The weighted average over the eight reporting sites was **4.8%**, which is above the national baseline of 1.9%. The percentage of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) in Las Vegas was **5.0%**. The national P&I mortality for week 7 is not yet available. The national P&I mortality for week 6 was 7.6%.

Percentage of Influenza-Like Illnesses (ILI) Cases By Week
Weighted Average, Weeks 40-52, 2002 and Weeks 1-7, 2003



Fourteen confirmed cases of influenza have been reported to the Office of Epidemiology thus far this season in Clark County. Eleven of the fourteen were confirmed by rapid test, which detects both influenza A and B viruses, but does not distinguish between the two. The other three cases were confirmed by nasopharyngeal culture isolates. All three were subtyped B/Hong Kong/330/2001-like at the Nevada State Health Laboratory. Since September 29, 2002 World Health Organization and National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System laboratories have tested a total of 42,652 specimens for influenza viruses and 2,564 (6.0%) were positive. Of the 2,564 viruses identified, 937 (37%) were influenza A viruses and 1,627 (63%) were influenza B viruses.¹

1) Reference: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/flu/weekly.htm>. February 20, 2003.

This newsletter is also posted on the Clark County Health District webpage for health care practitioners. See http://www.cchd.org/physician/physician_only.htm for this and other health and bioterrorism related information. Each year from October through May, the Centers for Disease Control provide weekly updates on U.S. influenza activity. The information is online at: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/flu/weekly.htm>