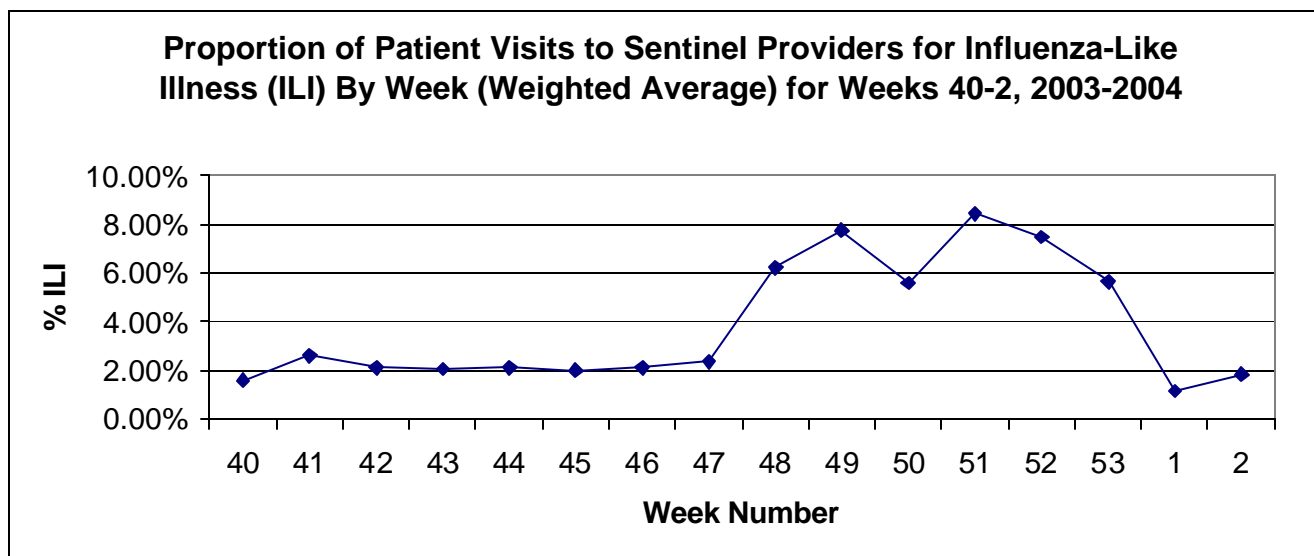


Date: January 23, 2004
To: Health Care Provider
From: Salena Savarda, BS, Surveillance Coordinator
Subject: Influenza Report for Week 2 (January 11-17, 2004)

One hundred fifty-seven cases of Influenza-like illness (ILI) were reported during week 2. **Criteria for inclusion as a case of ILI are fever $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ (37.8°C) and cough or sore throat.** The proportion of patient visits to sentinel providers for ILI was **1.85%** (weighted average), which is lower than the national baseline of 2.5%. The percentage of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) in Las Vegas was **8.56%**. The national P&I mortality for week 2 was 10.3%, which exceeds the epidemic threshold of 8.1%. The proportion of ILI cases by week in Clark County for weeks 40-2 of the 2003-2004 surveillance season is presented in the following figure.



Two hundred and eight confirmed cases of influenza have been reported to the Office of Epidemiology (OOE) to date this season in Clark County. One hundred and seventy-seven of these cases were confirmed by an influenza rapid test. Sixty-two of these were results of a type of test which differentiates between influenza A & B, and all results were reported as influenza A except for one which was reported as influenza B. No new culture confirmed cases have been reported. Thirty-one culture confirmed cases have been reported to date this season and all have been typed as influenza A. Twenty-three of these thirty-one isolates were subtyped as influenza A (H3N2). Subtyping on the remaining eight isolates is still pending. One isolate was antigenically characterized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as influenza A/Korea/770/2002-Like (H3N2). No new reports of influenza-related deaths have been confirmed by the OOE.

Since September 28, the World Health Organization and National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System laboratories have tested a total of 76,311 specimens for influenza viruses, and of these, 26.2% were positive. Among the positive specimens, 99.4% were influenza A viruses. Twenty-three percent of the positive influenza A virus isolates have been subtyped and 99.9% were influenza A (H3N2) viruses.

Reference: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> January 21, 2004.

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.