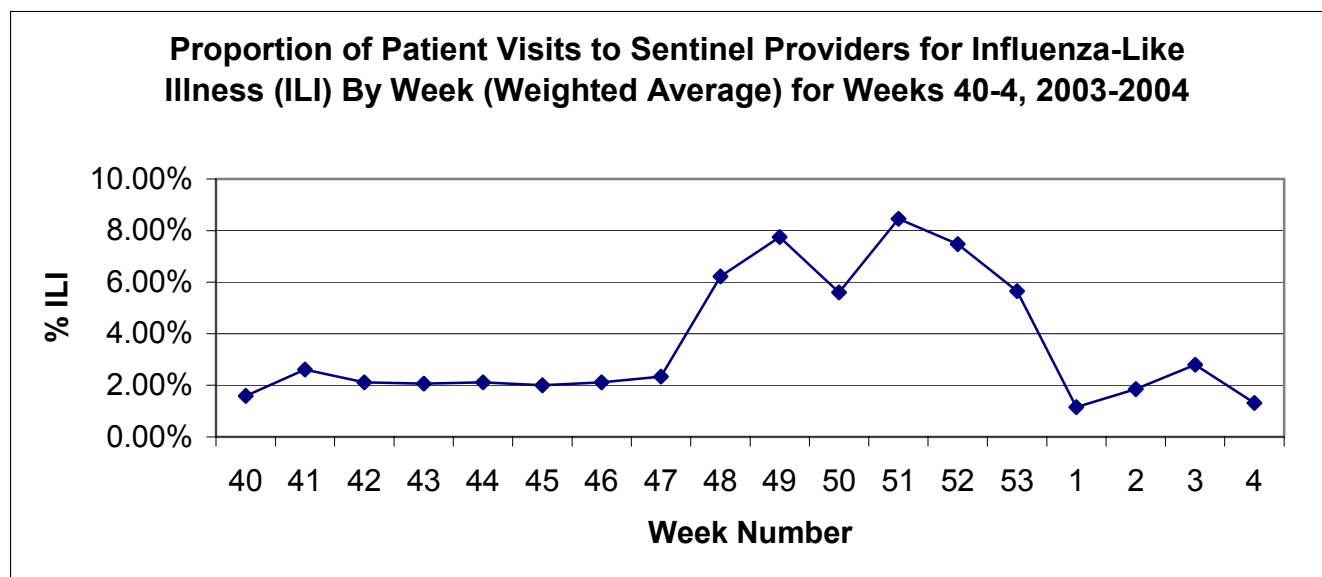


Date: February 6, 2004
To: Health Care Provider
From: Salena Savarda, BS, Surveillance Coordinator
Subject: Influenza Report for Week 4 (January 25-31, 2004)

One hundred and twenty-four cases of Influenza-like illness (ILI) were reported during week 4. **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 **1.32%** (weighted average), which is below the national baseline of 2.5%. The percentage of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) in Las Vegas was **8.92%**. The national P&I mortality for week 4 was 9.3%, which exceeds the epidemic threshold of 8.2%. The proportion of ILI cases by week in Clark County for weeks 40-4 of the 2003-2004 surveillance season is presented in the following figure.



Two hundred and ten confirmed cases of influenza have been reported to the Office of Epidemiology (OOE) to date this season in Clark County. One hundred and seventy-nine of these cases were confirmed by an influenza rapid test. Sixty-six 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-nine of these thirty-one isolates were subtyped as influenza A (H3N2). Subtyping on one isolate is still pending and the second isolate was not available. Of the thirty-one culture confirmed cases, one isolate was antigenically characterized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as influenza A/Korea/770/2002-Like (H3N2). No new reports of influenza-related deaths have been confirmed by the OOE since last report.

As the outbreak of avian influenza (H5N1) in Asia continues to evolve, several agencies are providing updated information regarding this outbreak on their websites. The World Health Organization for Animal Health website (http://www.oie.int/eng/en_index.htm) is providing the areas in China in which avian influenza has been identified in animals. The OOE will continue to provide updated information on both the SARS and avian influenza (H5N1) affected areas, including human cases, on our website at http://www.cchd.org/physician/physician_only.htm