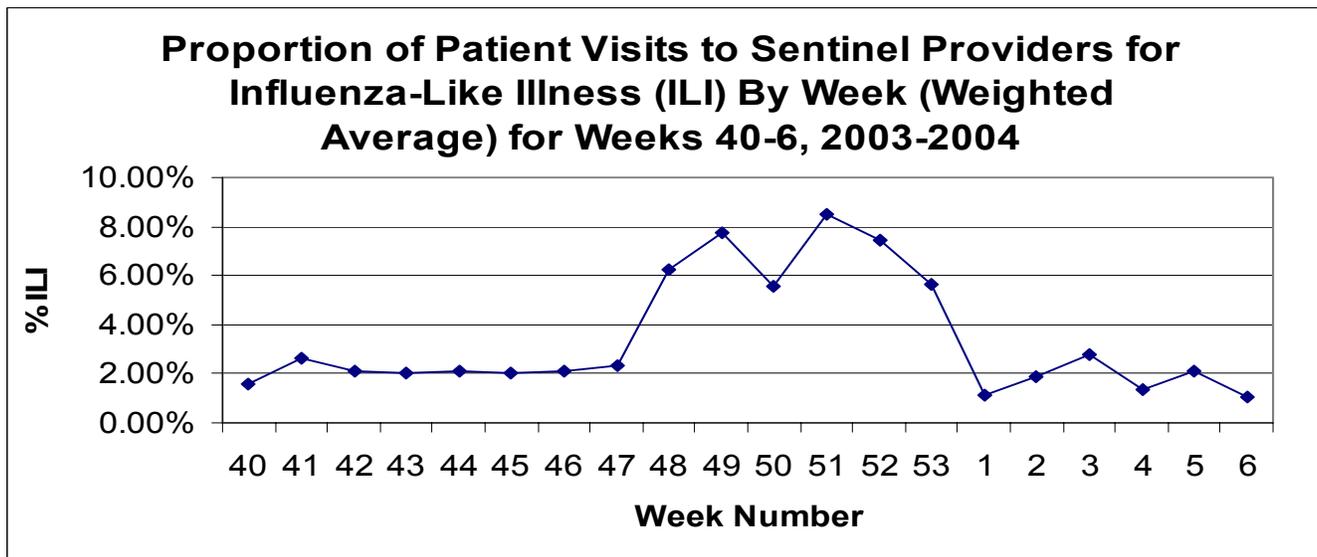


Date: February 20, 2004
To: Health Care Provider
From: Salena Savarda, BS, Surveillance Coordinator
Subject: Influenza Report for Week 6 (February 8-14, 2004)

One hundred and twenty-eight cases of Influenza-like illness (ILI) were reported during week 6. **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 **1.09%** (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 **7.95%**. The national P&I mortality for week 6 was 8.6%, which exceeds the epidemic threshold of 8.3%. The proportion of ILI cases by week in Clark County for weeks 40-6 of the 2003-2004 surveillance season is presented in the following figure.



To date this season, two hundred and ten confirmed cases of influenza have been reported to the Office of Epidemiology in Clark County. No new influenza cases have been reported since January 30, 2004. 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. Thirty-one of our total cases this season were culture confirmed cases 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 typed. Of the thirty-one culture confirmed cases, 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 week 53.

One hundred and sixteen cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) were reported in week 7. At 153 cases, week 5 remains the peak week for cases reported so far this season. The patterns of RSV cases reported in Clark County this season are not unusual given the fluctuating nature of this disease. The CDC reports that in temperate climates, RSV infections usually occur during annual community outbreaks, during the late fall,

winter, or early spring months. The following table lists the number of RSV cases in Clark County for weeks 1-7 during 2002 -2004.

Number of RSV Cases Reported in Clark County for Weeks 1-7 during 2002-2004

Week Number	2002	2003	2004
1	34	120	54
2	80	86	56
3	82	75	60
4	105	85	111
5	153	75	153
6	158	134	89
7	100	96	116

References:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> February 20, 2004.
2. Center for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/revb/respiratory/rsvfeat.htm>

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.

Health care providers wishing to participate in the ongoing Clark County Health District Influenza Surveillance Program should contact Salena Savarda, Surveillance Coordinator, at (702) 383-1378