

Local Flu Activity Continues to be Low This Season

Flu activity remains under 10% in Los Angeles County during Week 7, the percentage generally indicative of the beginning of flu season, and lower than the national prevalence of 14.4%. Influenza A continues to be the dominant virus type (Table 1). Week 7 influenza levels were one-third of those during the same period last year when flu peaked at 26.7%. Shown in Figure 2, other respiratory viruses circulating include rhino/enterovirus (8.3%), human metapneumovirus (hMPV) (10.5%) and RSV (16.4%).

Table 1. LA County Surveillance Summary (2011-2012) Surveillance Week 7

LA County Surveillance Summary	Week 7	2011-2012 Season YTD
Positive Flu Tests / Total Tests (Percent Positive Flu Tests)	45 / 512 (8.8%)	278 / 10,576 (2.6%)
Percent Flu A / B	90 / 10	90 / 10
Positive RSV Tests / Total Tests (Percent Positive RSV Tests)	75 / 457 (16.4%)	430 / 7,817 (5.5%)
Community Respiratory Outbreaks	2	10
Flu Deaths, Confirmed (Pediatric Deaths, Confirmed)	-----*	4 (1)

* Due to the lag time in reporting and confirmation of cause, weekly flu death data is delayed.

Figure 1. Influenza-like Illness ED Visits in LA County (2007-2012) Surveillance Week 7

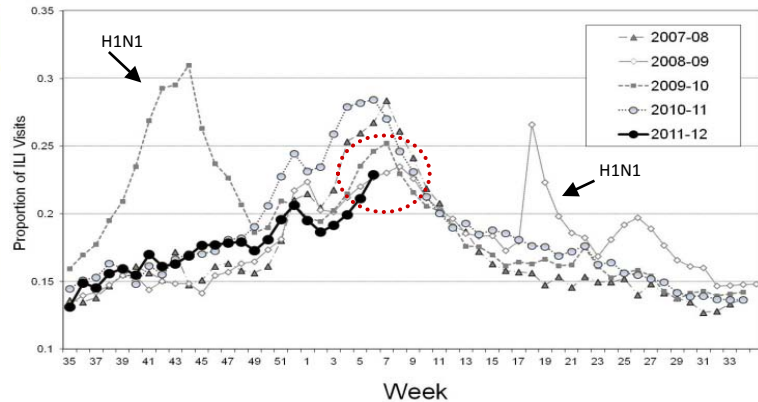
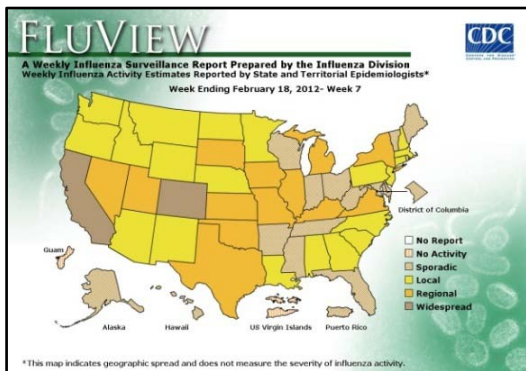
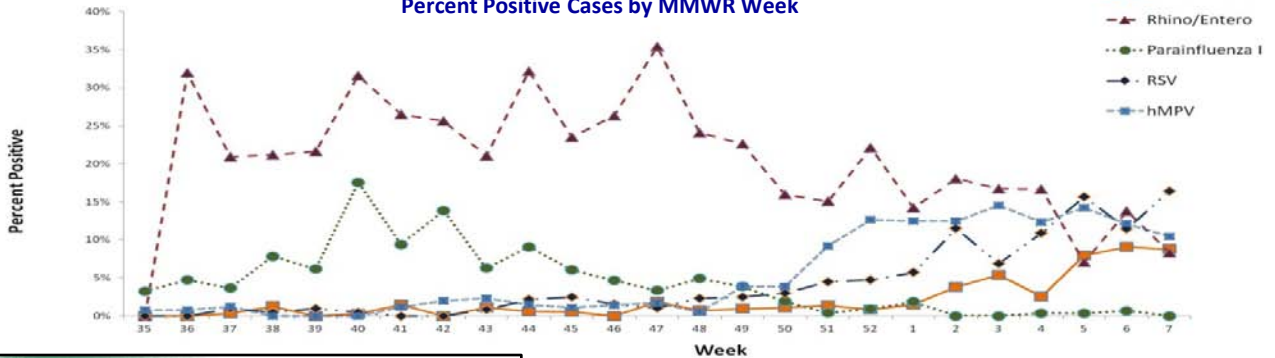


Figure 2. Respiratory Viruses in LA County 2011-2012 Percent Positive Cases by MMWR Week



National tracking shows the spread of flu continuing: two states (California, Colorado) reported widespread activity (up from just California last week; 13 states reported regional influenza activity.

Interested in current CDC advisory practices on immunization and guidance on the use of antiviral medications in the prevention and treatment of influenza? Consider participating in an upcoming conference call/webinar in which a CDC subject matter expert will review these topics.

Date: February 28, 2012

Time: 2:00 – 3:00 pm (EST)

Call Number: 800-779-7163

Passcode: 7319016

Join the Webinar:

<https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW6062720&p=7319016&t=c>