
Influenza Surveillance Report – Week Ending December 18th
Genesee County, MI
December 23, 2009

Genesee County Influenza Surveillance

- **Surveillance:** Surveillance in Genesee County indicates influenza activity during the week ending December 18th has increased slightly. The level of influenza-like illness continues to be comparable to what is normally observed during this time of year. Emergency department visits due to both constitutional and respiratory complaints have increased. This increase is similar to what is normally observed during this time of year. Fewer hospitalizations due to influenza-like illness were reported. Subtyped influenza cases in Genesee County to date for the 2009-2010 influenza season continue to be the 2009 H1N1 influenza strain.
- **Lab-confirmed cases:** One (1) new case of confirmed H1N1 influenza was reported in the week ending December 18th bringing the total cases of confirmed H1N1 influenza cases to 254. The average age of confirmed 2009 H1N1 influenza cases is 19.3 years with a range of 2 months to 74 years and the following distribution by age group: <5 yrs = 32 (12.6%), 5-14 yrs = 107 (42.1%), 15-24 yrs = 45 (17.7%), 25-44 yrs = 40 (15.7%), 45-64 yrs = 26 (10.2%), and 65+ yrs = 4 (1.6%).
- **Hospitalizations/deaths:** There were no confirmed cases of severe and/or hospitalized patients due or deaths associated with 2009 H1N1 influenza among Genesee County residents during the week ending December 18th. Few hospitalizations due to influenza-like illness and pneumonia were reported. A total of 54 hospitalizations associated with 2009 H1N1 influenza have been reported to date in Genesee County this influenza season. The average age of hospitalized cases is 26.7 years with the following distribution by age group: <5 yrs = 10 (18.5%), 5-14 yrs = 12 (22.2%), 15-24 yrs = 9 (16.7%), 25-44 yrs = 9 (16.7%), 45-64 yrs = 11 (20.4%), and 65+ yrs = 3 (5.6%).
- **Local Colleges and Universities:** Low levels of influenza-like illness were observed in college and university students and staff for the week ending December 18th.
- **Genesee County Schools and Childcare Centers:** During the week ending December 18th the rate of influenza-like illness among children in schools and childcare centers remained similar to the previous week at approximately 2.2% of children reporting flu-like illness. This influenza-like illness activity is similar to what is observed during this time of year. Among the 21 school districts, 4 (19%) experienced increased levels of influenza like illness compared to the previous week and 5 (24%) experienced a decrease, while 12 (57%) experienced no significant change in reported influenza-like illnesses. Student absences remain at levels similar to those normally observed during this time of year. No school closings due to illness or absences were reported this week.

H1N1 Vaccine Update

- 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine is now available to the general public. The GCHD encourages anyone who wants to avoid getting 2009 H1N1 influenza to get vaccinated.
- Vaccination locations continue to expand within Genesee County. The GCHD continues to offer 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine during regular business hours at the Burton Branch location. McLaren Visiting Nurse and Hospice is holding vaccine clinics for the general public at Senior Citizen Centers throughout Genesee County. Pharmacies and other locations in Genesee County are offering 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine during scheduled hours.
- For details on vaccination clinics including locations and times visit <http://www.gchd.us/HotTopics/H1N1FluClinicLocations.asp>

Antiviral Distribution

- A total of twelve (12) pharmacies throughout Genesee County have now received Tamiflu from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS). For the most recent list of pharmacies call (810) 257-3833 or visit <http://www.gchd.us/HotTopics/H1N1Flu.asp>
- All doses from the SNS are free of charge to underinsured or uninsured patients. A prescription from a health care provider is required to receive antivirals.