

## INFLUENZA HEALTH ADVISORY

### September 15, 2022

#### Situational Update

For the 2021-2022 influenza season, influenza activity peaked at the end of May at the county level and [statewide](#). In Sacramento County, a total of 11 influenza-associated ICU admissions and 6 influenza-associated deaths were reported for the season. The 2022-2023 influenza season will begin October 2, 2022.

#### Vaccination and Masking

For patient and staff safety, Sacramento County Public Health will mandate the influenza vaccination policy for all healthcare facilities in Sacramento County. Under the State's [Guidance for the Use of Face Masks](#), all individuals in healthcare settings are still required to wear surgical masks or higher-level respirators (e.g., N95s, KN95s, KF94s).

#### Actions Requested of Health Care Systems and Clinicians:

1. **Report** electronically to SCPH – via CalREDIE or confidential fax at (916) 854-9709 – the following laboratory-confirmed influenza cases:

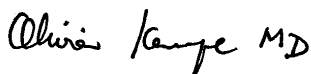
<i>Intensive care unit (ICU) cases of all ages</i>	<i>Outbreaks</i>
<i>Deaths of all ages</i>	<i>Novel influenza viruses (e.g. H5N1, H7N9)</i>

Medical records (e.g., admission notes, lab results, discharge summary, vaccination info) for **all** ICU and fatal cases should be uploaded into the CalREDIE filing cabinet or faxed.

2. **Test** patients with severe influenza-like illness for both influenza and COVID-19.
3. **Offer** the influenza vaccine to all health care workers, especially those with direct patient contact. Refer to your organization for questions related to exemptions.
4. **Encourage** influenza vaccination for any patient six months of age or older and pneumococcal vaccination for patients and health care workers at an increased risk for pneumococcal disease.
5. **Implement** infection control precautions as appropriate.
6. **Treat** with antivirals (e.g. oseltamivir, zanamivir, peramivir, baloxavir) as early as possible any patient confirmed or suspected to have influenza who is 1) hospitalized, 2) has severe, complicated, or progressive illness, 3) is a higher risk for influenza complications.

For information about influenza, visit the [Center for Disease Control and Prevention's \(CDC\)](#), the [California Department of Public Health's \(CDPH\)](#), or [SCPH's](#) influenza websites. For information about immunization services, contact the Sacramento County Immunization Assistance Program at 916-875-SHOT (7468).

Sincerely,



Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS  
 Public Health Officer