

RESPIRATORY DISEASES HEALTH ADVISORY

December 16, 2024

Situational Update

Although influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) [activity](#)* is still low in Sacramento County, it has been increasing the last few weeks and influenza activity will likely reach moderate levels within the next couple of weeks. Both influenza A and RSV [wastewater](#) levels are now high in Sacramento County. Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) has confirmed the first influenza death in an older adult and RSV death in a child less than five years old for this respiratory season. COVID-19 activity is minimal at this time with low levels in wastewater.

Actions Requested of Health Care Systems and Clinicians:

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

Influenza	RSV
<i>Intensive care unit (ICU) cases of all ages</i>	<i>Intensive care unit (ICU) cases of age <5</i>
<i>Deaths of all ages</i>	<i>Deaths age <5</i>
<i>Outbreaks (2+ cases with influenza-like illness within 72 hours, including a lab confirmed case)</i>	<i>Outbreaks (2+ cases with acute respiratory illness within 72 hours, including a lab confirmed case)</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.

- Offer** the influenza and COVID-19 vaccine to all health care workers, especially those with direct patient contact. Refer to your organization for questions related to exemptions.
- Encourage** influenza and COVID-19 vaccination for patients six months of age or older, pneumococcal vaccination for patients and health care workers at an increased risk for pneumococcal disease, and RSV vaccine for eligible patients.
- Implement** infection control precautions as appropriate.
- Treat** with antivirals as early as possible for patients confirmed or suspected to have influenza or COVID-19, especially for hospitalized patients and those at risk of severe complications.

*Based on emergency department visits related to the disease per syndromic surveillance.

Resources:

- Respiratory Diseases Dashboard 2024-2025 Season: <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/PUB/Pages/Respiratory-Diseases-Dashboard-2024-2025.aspx>
- 2024-2025 Respiratory Disease Season Outlook (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/cfa-qualitative-assessments/php/data-research/season-outlook24-25/index.html>
- Respiratory Illnesses (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/index.html>
- Respiratory Viruses (CDPH): <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Respiratory-Viruses/Home.aspx>
- Evaluation and Testing for Human Avian Influenza A(H5N1) Infection (CDPH): <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OPA/Pages/CAHAN/Evaluation-and-Testing-for-Human-Avian-Influenza-A-H5N1-Infection.aspx>
- Immunization Assistance Program (SCPH): [https://dhs.saccounty.gov/PUB/ImmunizationAssistanceProgram/Pages/Immunization-Assistance-Program-\(IAP\).aspx](https://dhs.saccounty.gov/PUB/ImmunizationAssistanceProgram/Pages/Immunization-Assistance-Program-(IAP).aspx)

Sincerely,



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 Public Health Officer