Los Angeles County

Influenza activity remained low during week 48. To date, there have been no confirmed severe pediatric influenza cases and a total of 33 positive RSV tests in Los Angeles County. Emergency Department ILI (influenza-like illness) surveillance is currently slightly lower than rates experienced during 2007-08. Influenza activity usually peaks in January-February in Los Angeles. There has been 1 documented outbreak of adenovirus and some labs report more adenovirus than influenza virus.

Surveillance System Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM*</th>
<th>Week 48</th>
<th>2008-2009 YTD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent Positive Influenza Tests‡</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive RSV Tests§</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Pediatric Influenza Cases†</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Outbreaks</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza Vaccines Administered (PH)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>39,534</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‡Sentinel sites (8 participating facilities).
§Sentinel sites (2 participating facilities).
†The number of deaths is indicated by the parenthesis.

California

During week 47 (November 16-November 22, 2008), influenza activity in California remained sporadic, with activity in Northern California higher than Southern California. Outpatient activity and hospitalizations for ILI remained low as did laboratory detections.

http://www.cdph.ca.gov/PROGRAMS/VRDL/Pages/CaliforniaInfluenzaSurveillanceProject.aspx

United States

Influenza activity increased slightly during week 47 (11/16-11/22) but remains low. During this week, one state reported low activity, 19 reported sporadic activity and 29 states reported no activity (one state did not report). Influenza activity is lower compared to the same week last year.

http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm

In the News

Influenza Vaccine Effective in Young Children

A new study by the University of Rochester concluded that even during a season when there is a poor match between circulating and vaccine strains of influenza, the vaccine is likely to provide significant protection from the influenza virus for children between 6 months and 5 years of age. Data suggest an approximately 60% reduction in influenza-related medical visits among children in this age group who received all recommended doses of vaccine.

http://uk.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUKTRE4AP7S420081126