

City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) 2010 – 2011 Influenza Season Situational Awareness Report #5 March 1, 2011

MHD provides key stakeholders with situational reports to summarize the latest updates regarding the MHD, State of Wisconsin Division of Public Health (DPH) and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) response to 2010 – 2011 Seasonal Influenza.

New Key Developments

1. Influenza activity within Milwaukee is mirroring activity throughout Wisconsin and the nation. Activity here is moderate (the 2nd highest level), and is expect to peak in the upcoming weeks. The predominant circulating strain appears to be shifting towards 2009 H1N1 influenza, although H3N2 influenza and influenza B continue to be present. All three of these strains are covered by this year's seasonal influenza vaccine.
2. The CDC and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are currently investigating a possible uptick in febrile seizures in children 6 months to 2 years of age who were vaccinated with Fluzone[®] seasonal influenza vaccine. The preliminary information from the vaccine adverse event reporting system indicates that further investigation is warranted, however CDC has **NOT** changed their recommendations on the use of seasonal influenza vaccine at this time. Febrile seizures in children are usually benign and self-limited.
3. Seasonal influenza vaccine is plentiful and it is still not too late to get vaccinated to prevent illness including the spread of illness to others that may be more vulnerable to influenza infection complications (young children, pregnant women and persons with underlying health conditions) in your family, community or workplace.

Influenza Surveillance

- MHD influenza surveillance continues to identify moderate levels of influenza-like-illness (ILI) in Milwaukee during the week of February 13th – February 19th; levels of ILI continue to increase in the area.
- DPH influenza surveillance continues to report moderate levels of ILI in Wisconsin during the week of February 13th – February 19th.
- CDC has reported 41 influenza-related pediatric deaths during the 2010 – 2011 influenza season.
- CDC is reporting that 44 states reported widespread influenza activity (including Wisconsin), four states reported regional activity, zero states reported local activity, and two states reported sporadic activity for the week of February 13th – February 19th.
- The CDC has reported a human case of a novel influenza A strain (swine origin influenza A H3N2) in Pennsylvania that occurred in early 2010. There has been no known person to person transmission of this strain, and the individual reported having contact with pigs prior to becoming ill. Since 2009, CDC has identified 7 genetically-distinct novel influenza infections.

Influenza Vaccine

- The World Health Organization has recommended that the 2011 -2012 season consist of the same three influenza strains that made up the 2010 -2011 seasonal influenza vaccine.
- The Aurora VNA continues to have 2010 – 2011 seasonal influenza vaccine available at their West Allis location by appointment only. To make an appointment or for more information on the cost, accepted medical coverage, and, age requirements, please contact Aurora VNA at (414) 328-4430.
- Several area pharmacies have 2010 – 2011 seasonal influenza vaccine available at their locations. For more information on the cost, need for an appointment, accepted medical coverage, and age requirements, please visit their individual websites.
 - CVS (www.cvs.com/flu/?WT.mc_id=B_083010_CVSHome_Flu_Scheduler)
 - Target (http://sites.target.com/site/en/spot/flushot_locator.jsp)
 - Walgreens (www.walgreens.com/marketing/storelocator/find.jsp?check=true&ban=flh1_h_flu)

Additional Resources

- www.milwaukee.gov/flu
- www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/influenza/
- www.cdc.gov/flu

The information contained in this situational report has been generated by MHD and is intended to be used by public health stakeholders to assist them in making strategic decisions during the 2010 – 2011 Influenza Season. This situational report is not intended to replace stakeholders' current pandemic flu planning or their continuity of operations plans.