Flu activity has decreased for the second week in a row, with percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza B reducing while the percentage testing positive for influenza A continuing to increase. Interim estimates of flu vaccine effectiveness (VE) for preventing medically attended, laboratory-confirmed flu virus infection shows VE was 45% against influenza A and 50% against influenza B/Victoria, and 37% against A(H1N1)pdm09.125 influenza-associated deaths have been reported with no pediatric mortalities to date.

Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania Department of Health continues to report widespread activity, with a decrease in positive laboratory tests from over 10,000 cases reported last week to above 7,000 cases reported this week. Of Influenza A, A/pH1N1 is the most prominent strain, as 82% of the 225 sub-typing results from the state public health lab was positive for A/pH1N1. 2,228 flu-associated hospitalizations and 66 flu-associated deaths have been reported. For more information, please visit: https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Flu/Pages/2019-20-Flu.aspx

United States

Flu activity has decreased for the second week in a row, with percentage of specimen testing positive for influenza B reducing while the percentage testing positive for influenza A continuing to increase. Interim estimates of flu vaccine effectiveness (VE) for preventing medically attended, laboratory-confirmed flu virus infection shows VE was 45% against influenza A and B virus types combined, 50% against influenza B/Victoria, and 37% against A(H1N1)pdm09.125 influenza-associated deaths in children have been reported this season. For more information, please visit: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm

All institutional outbreaks and hospitalized and fatal cases of influenza are to be reported to PDPH.

Phone: (215) 685-6742 Fax: (215) 238-6947 Email: ACD@phila.gov Reporting requirements and forms are posted online at hip.phila.gov