Influenza Update

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Summary

• During CDC Week 2, influenza activity in Clark decreased for the first time since November, with a positivity of 34.9%.

• Cowlitz County positivity also decreased during Week 2, to 32.5%.

• Syndromic surveillance data for ILI* at the local level dropped slightly for Week 2, down to 7.30%.

*Influenza Like Illness
Positivity Rate of Influenza Tests by Week from Reporting Laboratories in Clark County
Influenza in Long Term Care Facilities

• Clark County Public Health identifies and responds to influenza outbreaks in long term care facilities to provide recommendations and guide further community action.
Influenza in Long Term Care Facilities

• Long term care facilities are required to report all suspected and confirmed outbreaks to their local health jurisdiction (WAC) 246-101-305.

• LTCFs are required to report the following
  • A sudden increase in acute febrile respiratory illness (AFRI*) over the normal background rate (e.g., 2 or more cases of acute respiratory illness occurring within 72 hours of each other)
  • Any resident who tests positive for influenza

*Acute febrile respiratory illness is defined as fever > 100°F AND one or more respiratory symptoms (runny nose, sore throat, laryngitis, or cough)
Influenza in Long Term Care Facilities

• Treatment:
  • All residents and staff with confirmed or suspected influenza should receive antiviral treatment
  • Antiviral treatment can shorten duration of illness and may reduce risk of serious complications

• Chemoprophylaxis:
  • antiviral medication for all non-ill residents and
  • consider for non-ill, unvaccinated staff
Influenza in Long Term Care Facilities

• So far this influenza season, 9 influenza outbreaks has been reported (last year 20)

• An influenza outbreak can generally be considered over 7 days from the last onset (the clock starts again with each new onset).

• As of last Friday (1/19), 4 were declared over.
Influenza Outbreaks Reported by Long-Term Care Facilities by CDC Week, Clark County, 2017-2018 (N=9)

Influenza A
Influenza B
% Positivity

Number of Outbreaks

CDC Week

Percent Positive

0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52
Thank you!

Comments and questions

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