

MIFluFocus
October 28, 2005
Weekly Influenza Surveillance

Michigan Disease Surveillance System: Small weekly increases from summer levels of flu-like illness reports have been noted. These are based on school-based absenteeism reports and have been showing small gradual increases since the beginning of the school year. These are decreased compared to last year's reports for this time.

Syndromic Surveillance: Over-the-counter sales show slight increases from summer levels in chest rubs, pediatric cough and cold indicators, and thermometers. These are slightly increased when compared to last year's reports for this time. Emergency Department visits due to respiratory complaints are beginning to increase slightly from summer levels and are slightly increased when compared to last year's reports for this time. Emergency Department visits due to constitutional complaints remain constant from summer levels and are neither increased nor decreased when compared to last year's reports for this time.

Sentinel Surveillance (as of October 26, 2005): Influenza sentinel providers across the state are reporting 0.7% of office visits are due to influenza-like illness (ILI) for the week ending October 22, 2005. Sentinel providers have been reporting ILI activity at about this level since summer.

Community or Facility-Based Outbreaks (as of October 26, 2005): None reported.

MDCH Laboratory Surveillance (as of October 26): The MDCH laboratory has reported one positive influenza from SW Michigan that was confirmed as an A, H3N2 on October 7. There have been no cases confirmed in the last week.

National: During week 41 (**October 9 - October 15, 2005**), influenza activity occurred at a low level in the United States. One (0.2%) specimen tested by U.S. World Health Organization (WHO) and National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) collaborating laboratories was positive for influenza. The proportion of patient visits to sentinel providers for influenza-like illness (ILI) and the proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza were below baseline levels. One state reported local influenza activity, 8 states and New York City reported sporadic influenza activity, and 40 states and the District of Columbia reported no influenza activity.

International: (WHO, as of October 11) Influenza activity remained low.

MDCH reported **NO** activity to the CDC for this past week ending **10/22/2005**.
