



Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48913

FLU UPDATES

INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

The Michigan Health Alert Network distributed the following message today: "The weekly estimated flu activity in Michigan has been upgraded from 'sporadic' activity to the next higher level of 'local' activity, reflecting recent increases in laboratory-confirmed influenza cases and a facility outbreak from the Central region of the state. Activity in the remaining regions of the state has been sporadic but increasing slightly since the beginning of January. Overall, flu activity has been somewhat lower compared to the previous season."

As a reminder, MI Flu Focus is posted [online](#) weekly and contains local, state and national influenza surveillance information.

NEW ARTICLES ON INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

[Don't be lulled by mild flu season](#)

[Mexico sees increase in H1N1 cases](#)

ADDITIONAL FLU NEWS ARTICLES

MDCH posted the following press release this week: [Before Flu Season Peaks, Recent Cases Prove Ideal Time to Vaccinate](#)

Michigan: [Flu season is fast approaching, but residents are not lining up for vaccinations](#)

Michigan: [Health Officials Note Uptick In Flu Cases](#)

[Why the flu shot is important for pregnant women](#)

[Colorado considers mandatory flu shots for nursing home workers](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES:

- [Facemasks, Hand Hygiene, and Influenza among Young Adults: A Randomized Intervention Trial](#)
- [A New Sentinel Surveillance System for Severe Influenza in England Shows a Shift in Age Distribution of Hospitalised Cases in the Post-Pandemic Period](#)
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H5N1 AVIAN INFLUENZA

This week the *Annals of Internal Medicine* published two editorial articles on the controversial H5N1 studies:

- [Engineered H5N1: A Rare Time for Restraint in Science](#) by Thomas V. Inglesby, MD from the Center for Biosecurity of UPMC, Baltimore, Maryland
- [Laboratory Creation of a Highly Transmissible H5N1 Influenza Virus: Balancing Substantial Risks and Real Benefits](#) by Andrew T. Pavia, MD from the University of Utah

The following commentary was published in *Nature*:

- [H5N1: Flu transmission work is urgent](#)

Additional News Articles:

- [Virus in one controversial H5N1 study wasn't lethal](#)
- [Experts debate aspects of H5N1 transmission studies](#)
- [Meeting to address bird flu research impasse: WHO](#)
- [China reports another H5N1 death](#)
- [EGYPT: Anti-bird flu campaign planned](#)
- [Indonesia Expecting to Produce Bird Flu Vaccine Next Year](#)

FLU RESOURCES

Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

MDCH'S MONTHLY FLU POSTERS

January: "[It's a New Beginning. Resolve Not to Get the Flu This Year. It's The Easiest Resolution You'll Ever Make.](#)"

1st National Immunization Conference Online (NICO)
The 1st NICO, a virtual conference, will take place March 26-28, 2012. Workshops will include multiple presentations and will be one hour in length, and will be recorded. For more information go to the CDC's National Immunization Conference [section](#).

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