

## Flu Update

October 29, 2009

### Washtenaw County Influenza Surveillance

- **\*\*ALERT\*\*:** H1N1 influenza activity continues to increase in Washtenaw County.
- **Lab-confirmed cases:** Reports of confirmed influenza cases in Washtenaw residents increased sharply for the week ending October 24. All cases are H1N1 influenza. The age range of recent cases is 7 months to 58 years, with 6% ages 0 to 4 years and 64% ages 5 to 24 years old.
- **Local Universities:** EMU reported low levels of influenza-like illness in students for the week ending October 24. UM reported that levels of illness were starting to increase.
- **Washtenaw Schools and Childcare Centers:** Rates of respiratory illness are at historic highs. Several school districts are reporting absences near 20% in some buildings. No schools have been closed in Washtenaw County at this point.

#### Hospitalizations and Deaths in Washtenaw Residents with Confirmed Influenza

Total Hospitalizations*	Hospitalizations Week of 10/18 – 10/24/09	Total Deaths*
20	5	0

\*Starting August 30, 2009. Note: no Washtenaw deaths due to H1N1 were reported prior to this date.

### H1N1 Vaccine Update

- The Health Department will hold a free H1N1 vaccine clinic for the high-risk priority groups (see below) at the EMU Convocation Center on Thursday, November 5 from 10am – 7pm. (799 N. Hewitt Rd, Ypsilanti, 48197)
- Washtenaw County Public Health continues to prioritize vaccine for those most at risk (per CDC guidelines). These groups are:
  - pregnant women,
  - caregivers/contacts of children under 6 months,
  - children 6 months through 4 years,
  - children 5 – 18 years with underlying medical conditions, and
  - EMS and health care workers with direct patient contact
- A very limited number of pre-filled syringes have been allotted to Washtenaw County. All of these doses have been distributed to hospitals and health care providers.
- Of the vaccine allotted to Washtenaw County to date, 43% has been given to hospitals, 33% to community providers, 6% to universities, and 18% has been used by Public Health for mass clinics.

### Testing Alert

- If individuals are tested with the H1N1 PCR during the week or so after receiving the nasal vaccine, the test may come up positive. The PCR assay does not distinguish between the H1N1 virus and the attenuated vaccine strain.