The background is a vibrant red, representing blood. It features several large, realistic-looking red blood cells. Interspersed among them are several green, spherical influenza viruses. Each virus is covered in numerous small, spiky protrusions, some of which are larger and more prominent, resembling hemagglutinin spikes. The viruses are shown in various orientations, some appearing to be in motion or interacting with the red blood cells. The overall composition is a detailed scientific illustration of the circulatory system and a common respiratory pathogen.

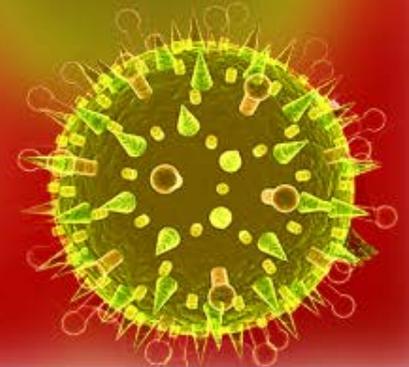
**Texas Laboratory Response Network (LRN)  
Seasonal Influenza Surveillance**

*Dan Bost, Ph.D.*

*Emergency Preparedness Branch, Laboratory Services Section  
Texas Department of State Health Services*

# Laboratory Response Network (LRN)

- **The LRN was established in 1999 by the Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in response to Presidential Decision Directive 39.**
- **National network of local and state public health, federal, military, and international laboratories that provide laboratory diagnostics and maintain the capacity to respond to biological and chemical threats and other public health emergencies.**
- **The LRN-B laboratories are categorized as either national, reference or sentinel laboratories based on their respective testing capabilities.**

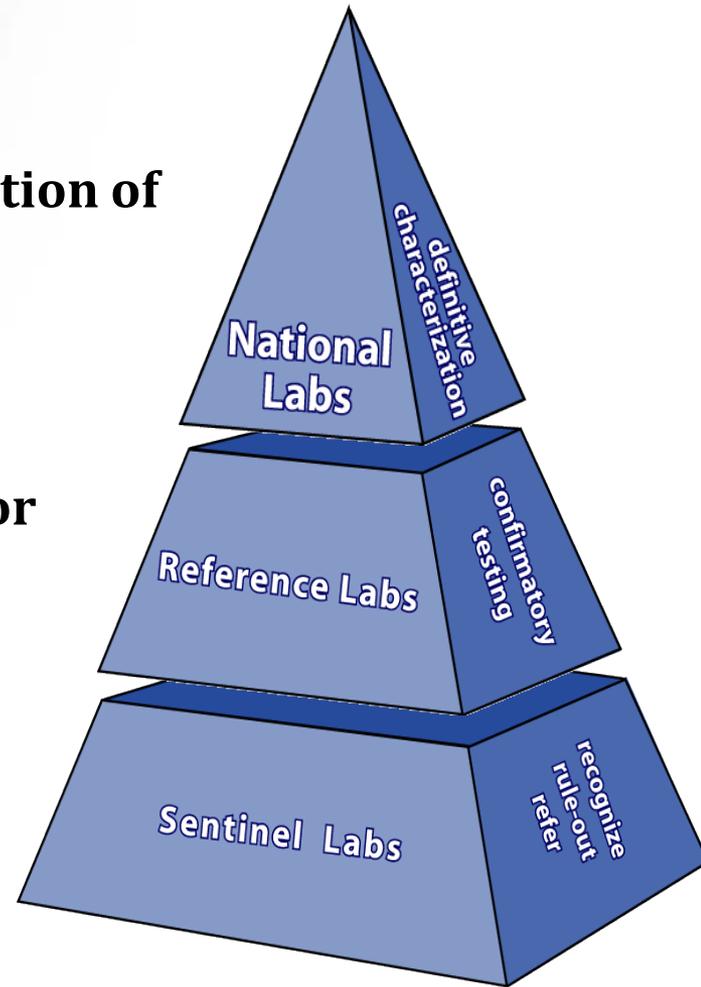


# Laboratory Response Network (LRN)

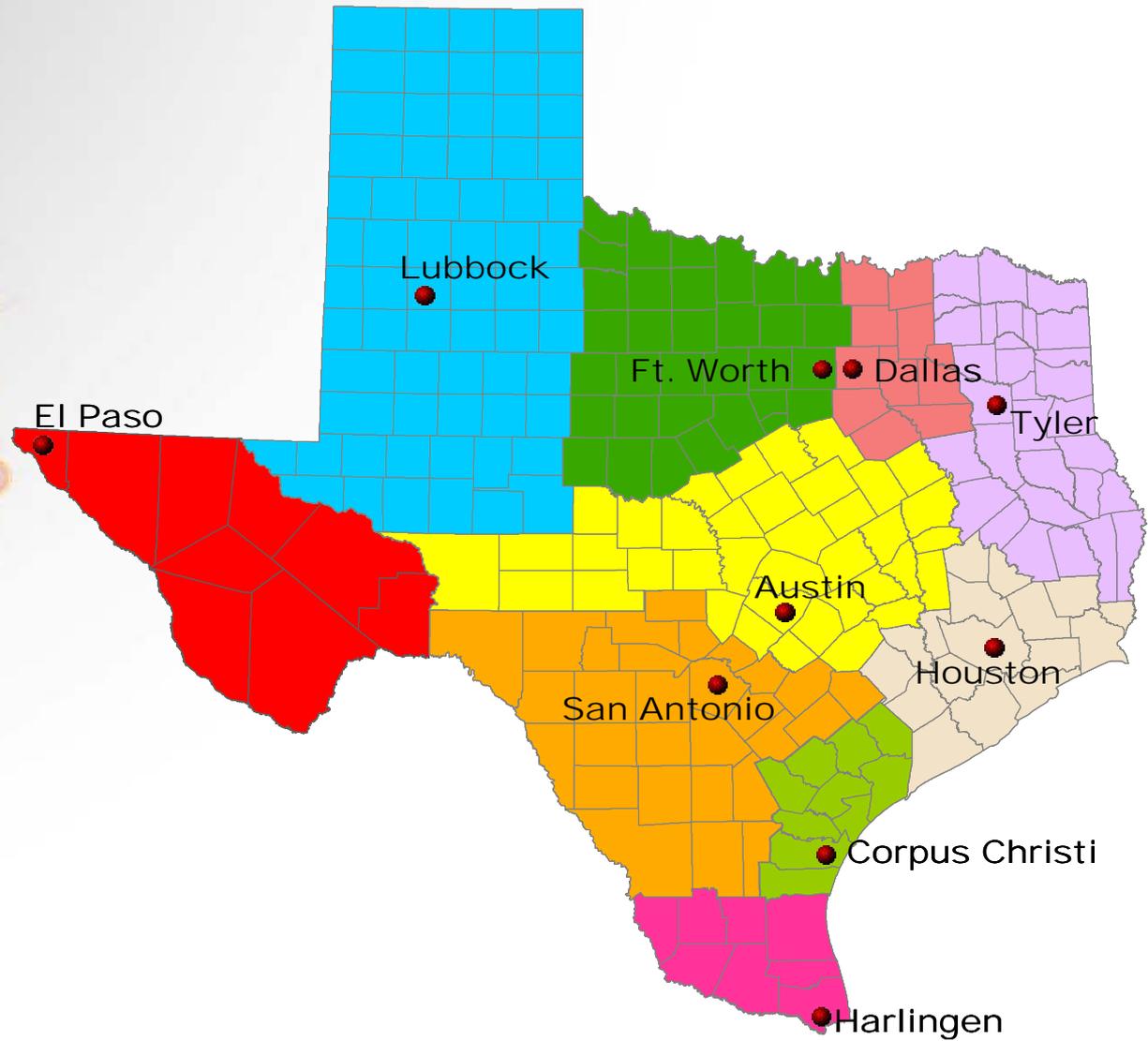
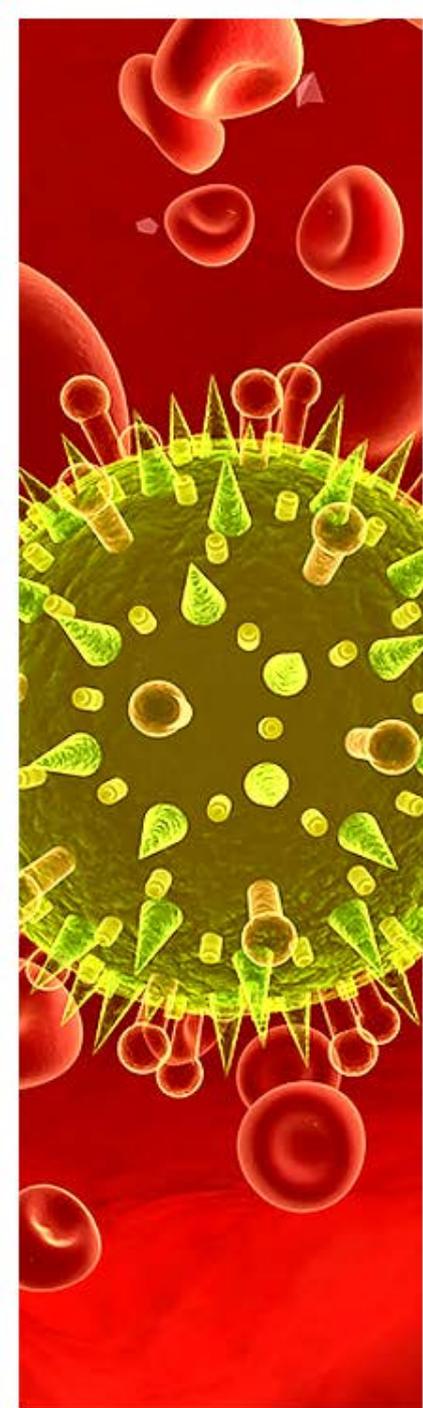
**Definitive characterization of the most dangerous infectious agents**

**Confirmatory testing for most select agents**

**Rule-out testing and referral of specimens**

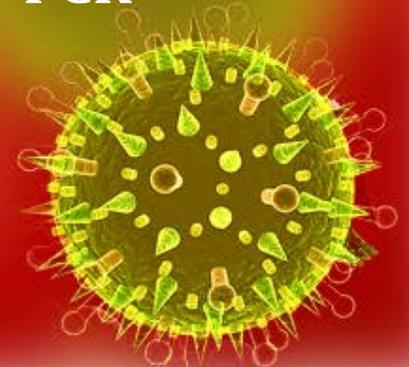


# Texas LRN Locations

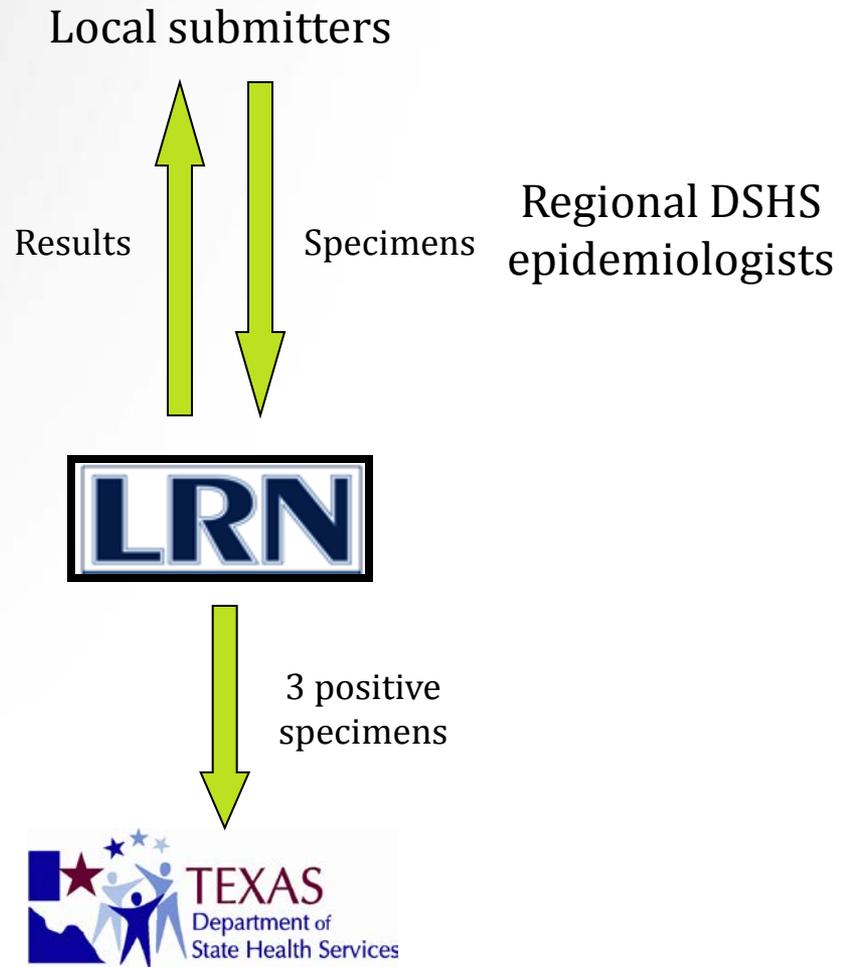


# Texas LRNs and Flu Surveillance

- **Texas LRN laboratories participated in flu pilot project for 2008-2009 season**
- **Played integral role in 2009 H1N1 surge response**
- **Continued participation in the DSHS influenza surveillance program during the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 flu seasons**
- **LRNs provide (free) local access to state-of-the-art molecular testing of specimens (i.e., real time RT-PCR assay)**
  - **Virus typing and subtyping**
  - **2-5 business day turnaround**



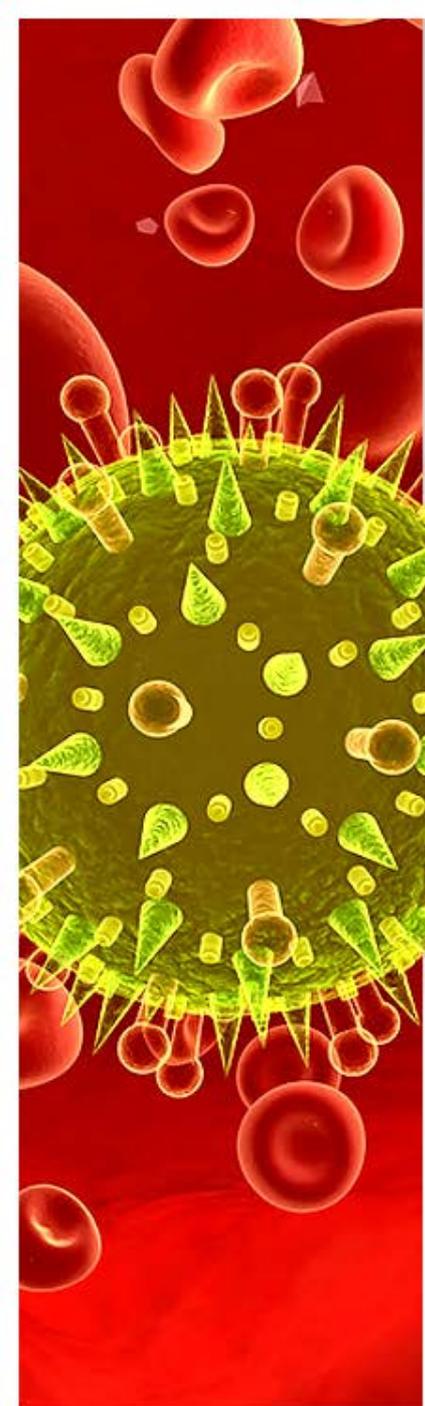
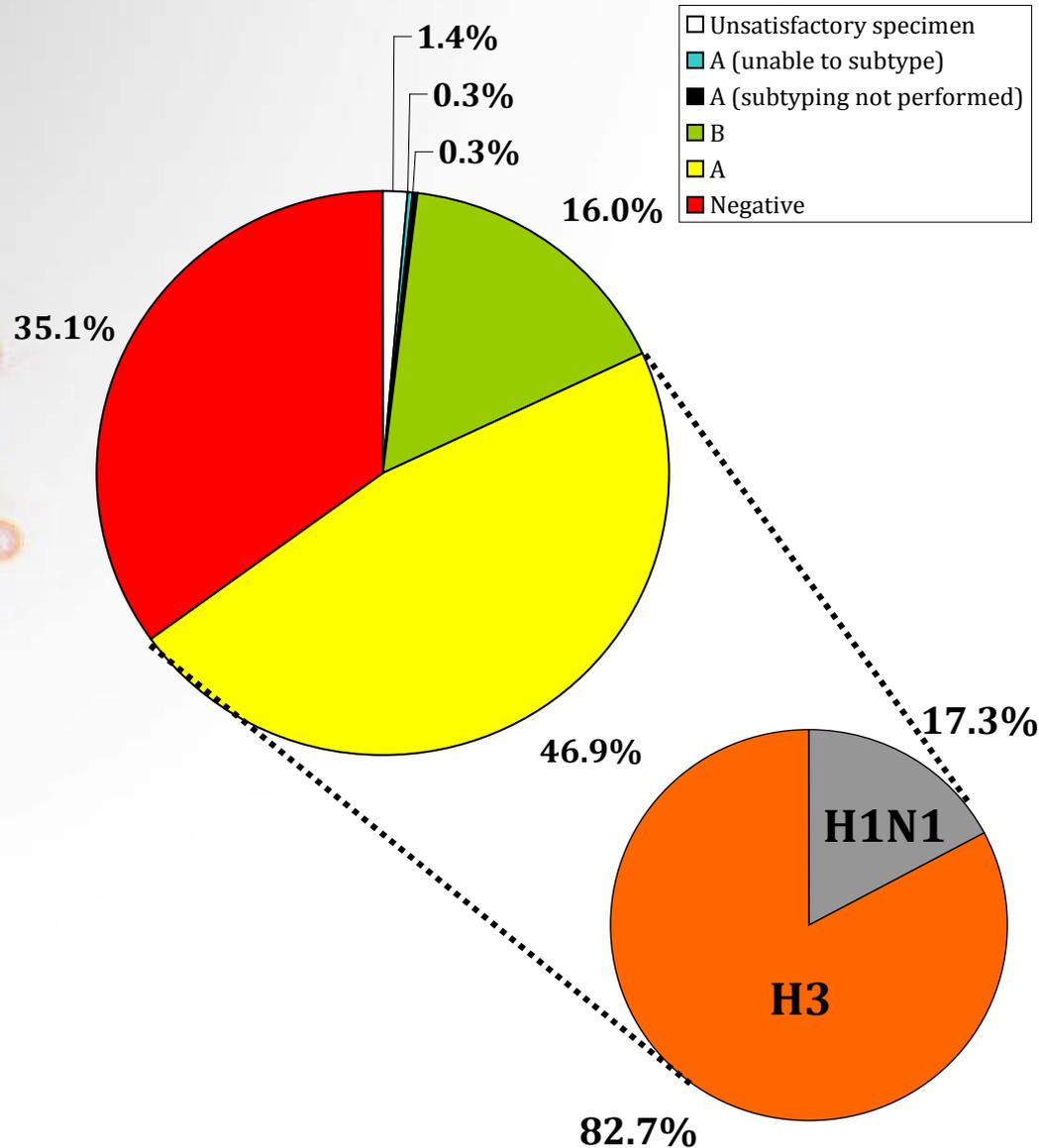
# Texas LRNs and Flu Surveillance, 2010-2011



## Additional testing

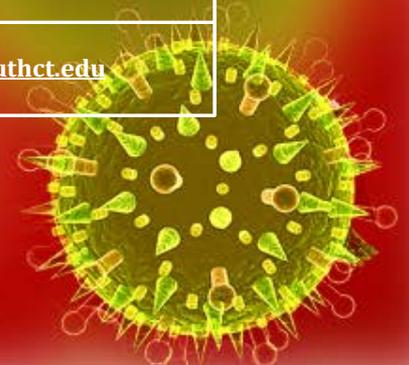
- Viral culture
- Antiviral resistance testing via pyrosequencing
- Multiplex PCR testing

# Texas LRNs and Flu Surveillance, 2010-2011



# Texas LRN Contact Information

LRN Location	Name	Position	Office Phone	Email Address
Corpus Christi	Donna Rosson	BT Coordinator	361-826-1323	<a href="mailto:DonnaR@cctexas.com">DonnaR@cctexas.com</a>
Dallas	Joey Stringer	BT Coordinator	972-692-2762	<a href="mailto:jstringer@dallascounty.org">jstringer@dallascounty.org</a>
El Paso	Minerva Cutter	BT Coordinator	915-543-3255	<a href="mailto:Minerva.Cutter@elpasotexas.gov">Minerva.Cutter@elpasotexas.gov</a>
Harlingen/ South Texas	Kristina Zamora	BT Coordinator	956-364-8369	<a href="mailto:Kristina.Zamora@dshs.state.tx.us">Kristina.Zamora@dshs.state.tx.us</a>
Houston	Jane O'Brien	BT Coordinator	713-558-3490	<a href="mailto:jane.Obrien@houstontx.gov">jane.Obrien@houstontx.gov</a>
	Meilan Beilby	BT Lab Supervisor	713-558-3504	<a href="mailto:meilan.beilby@houstontx.gov">meilan.beilby@houstontx.gov</a>
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Tyler-PHLET	Janine Yost	BT Coordinator	903-877-5056	<a href="mailto:janine.yost@uthct.edu">janine.yost@uthct.edu</a>



# Texas LRNs and Flu Surveillance, 2010-2011

## *Questions?*

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