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2017-2018 Flu Surveillance Updates & Reminders

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Team update

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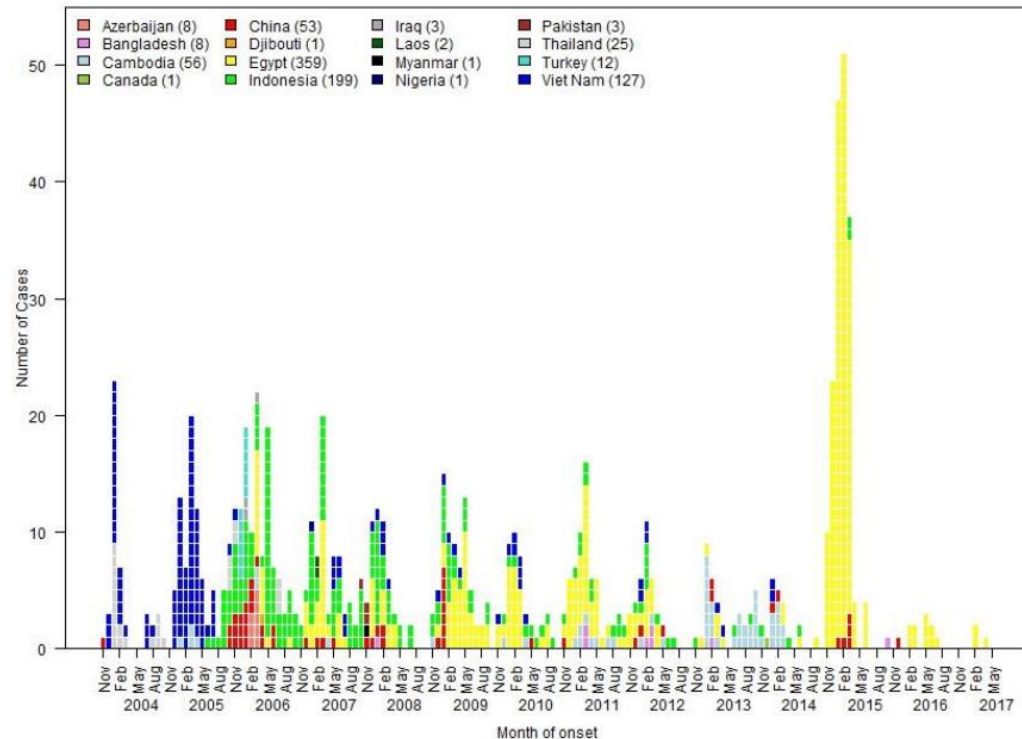
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Human Infections with Avian or Swine Influenza

Human Infections with Avian Influenza A (H5N1)

- Since 2003, 859 laboratory confirmed cases and 453 deaths have been reported from 16 countries*

Figure 1: Epidemiological curve of lab-confirmed avian influenza A(H5N1) cases in humans by month of onset, 2003-2017

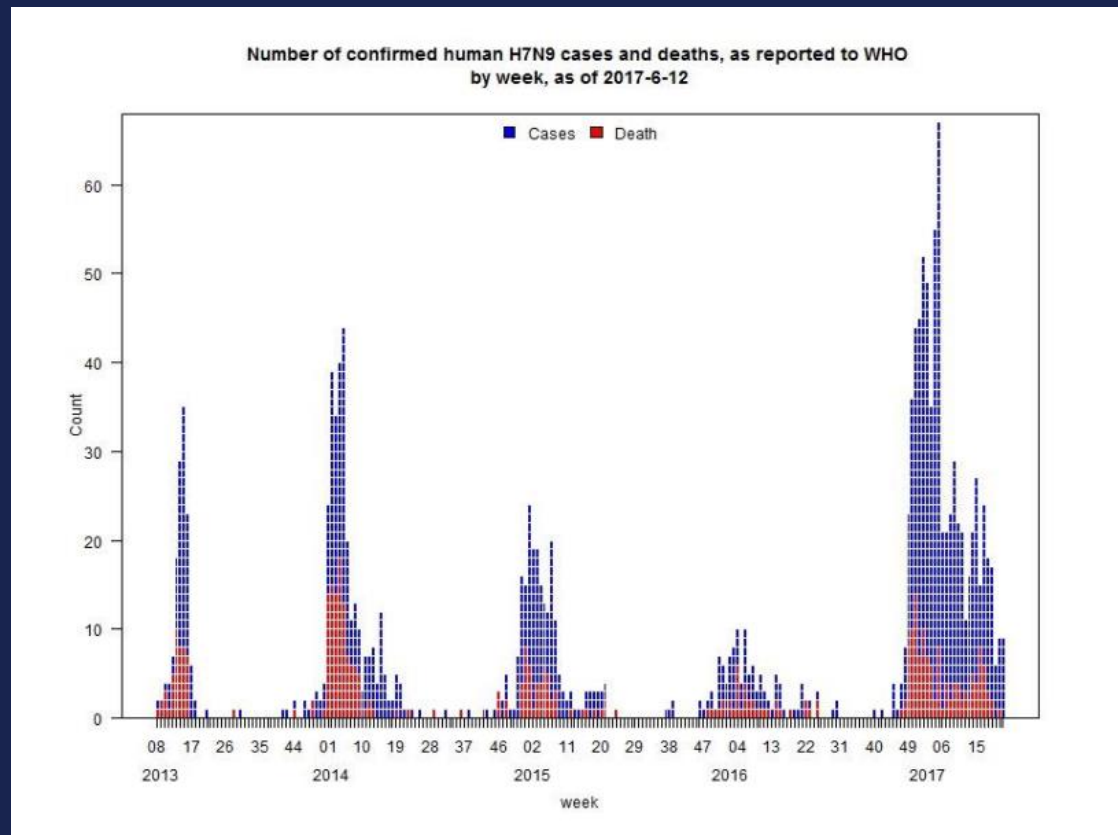


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* As of June 15, 2017 from WHO

Human Infections with Avian Influenza A (H7N9)

- Since 2013, 1533 laboratory confirmed cases including at least 592 deaths have been reported to the World Health Organization (WHO)



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Human Infection in Texas with Influenza A (H3N2)v virus



- 1 case identified in a child under 5 years of age during week 17
 - Resident of HSR 8
 - Had respiratory symptoms in February 2017
 - Patient not hospitalized and fully recovered
- Patient reported exposure to swine at an agricultural event
- Detected through the Department of Defense Global, Laboratory-based Influenza Surveillance Program



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Weekly State Influenza Surveillance Report

Additional wording in Influenza Testing Performed by Texas Hospital Laboratories for the Current Week

- Current table

Table 2: Influenza Testing Performed by Texas Hospital Laboratories for the Current Week

	Week 40	Season to Date
Number of labs reporting flu tests		
Number of specimens tested		
Number of positive specimens (%)†		
Percentage of total tests that were antigen detection tests		
Positive specimens by type/subtype [n (%)]		
Influenza A		
Subtyping performed		
A (H1N1)		
A (H3N2)		
Subtyping not performed		
Influenza B		

†Laboratory data in 2016-2017 season reports may not be comparable to reports from previous seasons because the data only includes hospital laboratories data for the current season.

- Future Table

Table 2: Influenza Testing Performed by Texas Hospital Laboratories for the Current Week

	Week 40	Season to Date (Week ending Oct. 7, 2017)
Number of labs reporting flu tests		
Number of specimens tested		
Number of positive specimens (%)†		
Percentage of total tests that were antigen detection tests		
Positive specimens by type/subtype [n (%)]		
Influenza A		
Subtyping performed		
A (H1N1)		
A (H3N2)		
Subtyping not performed		
Influenza B		

†Laboratory data in 2016-17 and 2017-18 season reports may not be comparable to reports from previous seasons because the data only includes hospital laboratories data for the current season.



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Additional wording in Influenza Testing Performed by Texas Public Health Laboratories for the Current Week

- Current table

Table 3: Influenza Testing Performed by Texas Public Health Laboratories for the Current Week

	Week 40	Season to Date
Number of labs reporting flu tests		
Number of specimens tested		
Number of positive specimens (%)†		
Positive specimens by type/subtype/lineage [n (%)]		
Influenza A		
Subtyping performed		
A (H1N1)		
A (H3N2)		
Subtyping not performed		
Influenza B		
Lineage testing performed		
B/Victoria		
B/Yamagata		
Lineage testing not performed		

†Laboratory data in 2016-2017 season reports may not be comparable to reports from previous seasons because the data only includes DSHS and LRN laboratory data for the current season.

- Future Table

Table 3: Influenza Testing Performed by Texas Public Health Laboratories for the Current Week

	Week 40	Season to Date (Week ending Oct. 7, 2017)
Number of labs reporting flu tests		
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Positive specimens by type/subtype/lineage [n (%)]		
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Subtyping performed		
A (H1N1)		
A (H3N2)		
Subtyping not performed		
Influenza B		
Lineage testing performed		
B/Victoria		
B/Yamagata		
Lineage testing not performed		

†Laboratory data in 2016-17 and 2017-18 season reports may not be comparable to reports from previous seasons because the data only includes DSHS and LRN laboratory data for the current season.



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Surveillance Activities

Influenza (P&I) Death Data

- Potentially used to identify:
 - Potential influenza-associated pediatric death cases
 - Potential RSV-associated death cases in patients under the age of 5



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Flu-associated Deaths of All Ages

- This was not pursued any further after the public comment period



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Right Size Surveillance Project

- Second season: 2017-18 season
- Reporting period: Oct. 1, 2017-Aug. 31, 2018
- Number of participants: 5 LHDs
- Two objectives
 - Situational awareness for influenza
 - Reporting ILI to ILINet
 - Collect and submit up to 10 specimens from patients who present with medically-attended influenza-like illness (MA-ILI)
 - Novel influenza detection
 - Submit up to 10 pre-screened influenza positive specimens to a public health laboratory for seasonal and novel influenza testing



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DSHS Laboratory Reminders

- Specimen labeling
 - Specimens must be labeled with at least two patient specific identifiers
 - Primary identifier- patient's name (first and last)
 - Secondary identifier should be one of the following:
 - Date of birth
 - Medical record number
 - Social security number
 - Medicaid number or
 - CDC number
 - Both identifiers must appear on the primary specimen container AND the associated submission form



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DSHS Laboratory Updates

1. Testing
 - a. No changes in regards to influenza testing
2. Remel media is being sent out instead of DSHS prepared media
 - a. Does not need to be frozen when stored
3. Laboratory Specimen Form
 - a. G2-V form
 - i. Updated form being released middle/end of September



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LRN Laboratory Updates



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- Lubbock LRN is back online
- Dallas and San Antonio LRNs can submit directly to the CDC
- San Antonio LRN in testing phase to be able to submit data directly the CDC via the PHLIP

CDC Laboratory Updates

- Testing
 - Antigenic characterization is being phased out
 - Transition to genetic testing



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2017-18 Flu Surveillance Reminders



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- Check expiration dates on viral transport media
- Send specimens year round
- Obtain copies of HD G-2V
- Report any influenza-associated pediatric deaths and outbreaks



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Priority Specimens

- Specimens of interest:
 - Extremely severe or unusual presentation
 - Not responding to AV treatment
 - Person that received an influenza vaccine at least 2 weeks prior to illness onset
 - History of animal contact (avian/swine)
 - History of international travel
- Other priority specimens
 - Early and late season specimens
 - Outbreaks
 - Pediatric deaths
 - Unsubtypeables

2017-18 Flu Surveillance: Pre-season Activities

- Recruiting reporters and specimen submitters
 - Recruitment usually occurs between July-Sept
- Ordering VTM and other supplies
- Receiving VTM and other supplies
- Updating influenza surveillance data collection forms or electronic surveys
- Surveillance
 - Official Influenza Season
 - Oct. 1, 2017 - May 19, 2018



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Timeline for Ordering Supplies



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August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 [†]	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 [‡]	26
27	28	29	30	31		

[†]Suggested deadline for LHD and provider orders to RHDs

[‡]Deadline for Regional HDs to send orders to DSHS Austin

Timeline for Shipping Supplies



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September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5*	6	7	8	9
10	11	12*	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26**	27	28	29	30

*Shipping day **Backup shipping day

Other Updates: ILINet

1. Current no. of participating providers: 150
 - a. 129 providers reported to the ILINet
 - b. 21 providers are being reviewed for lack of participation
2. State ILINet Coordinator conducted ILINet recruitment trips to HSR 2/3, HSR 4/5N , HSR 7, HSR 8, and HSR 11 in June and July 2017
 - a. Recruited additional providers



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Other Updates: Vaccines

- Recommended viruses for 2017-18 Northern Hemisphere Influenza Vaccine
 - Trivalent Vaccine
 - an A/Michigan/45/2015 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
 - an A/Hong Kong/4801/2014 (H3N2)-like virus; and
 - a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus.
 - Quadrivalent vaccine
 - Three viruses listed above
 - B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus (B/Yamagata lineage)



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Other Updates: Vaccines



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- Recommendation
 - Everyone 6 months and older is recommended for annual flu vaccination with rare exception
 - “Nasal spray” flu vaccine should **not** be used during the 2017-18 flu season



Other Updates: Flu Handbook

- Goal: Updated by end of September
- Changes posted to DSHS IDCU website
- Anticipated changes to include:
 - Minor information changes
 - Updating links within the handbook



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Other Updates: Weekly Influenza State Surveillance Report Website

1. Current web address:
 - a. <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/2017/>
2. Updated web address for 2017-18 Season
 - a. <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/2018/>
3. Sign-up to get the Weekly State Influenza Surveillance Report using the "Sign-Up for E-mail Update" button

Other Updates: Texas Syndromic Surveillance (TxS2)

- May 5, 2016: Statewide syndromic surveillance network was established and registration opened to certain types of healthcare facilities
 - Hospitals with emergency departments
 - Free-standing emergency centers and
 - Urgent care centers
- May 15, 2017: Texas Syndromic Surveillance System (TxS2) received its first production file
 - 21 hospitals submitting data
 -
- Future activities:
 - August 2017- Onboard Tarrant County Public Health syndromic surveillance system



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Future Efforts



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- Improve Texas ILI data that is reported into ILINet
- Recruit more laboratories for NREVSS
- Improve influenza-associated pediatric mortality reporting
- Determine if and how to incorporate ILI data from TxS2 into the weekly state influenza surveillance report
- Improve specimen submission numbers to public health laboratories