Syndromic Surveillance Notification Report
February 28th 2019 (9:00 AM)

Notification: Increase in Emergency Department (ED) Visits Related to Influenza Like Illness (ILI)

Updates Provided by: Tri-County Health Department (TCHD)

- **Purpose**
  - To notify partners regarding a recent second wave of increased influenza activity as reflected by an increase in the rate of ED visits via our Syndromic Surveillance system.

- **Definitions used for ILI Syndromic Surveillance**
  - Rate of ILI-related ED visits is calculated by using counts of visits meeting the CDC’s ILI case definition, which is based on searching visits with influenza-specific discharge diagnosis ICD-10 codes (J09, J10, J11) or text terms in the ED chief complaint and triage note (fever and either cough, sore throat, strep throat, or upper respiratory).
  - Rate of influenza-related ED visits is based on counts of visits with influenza-specific discharge diagnosis ICD10 codes (J09, J10, J11).

- **ILI and Influenza-Related ED Visit Rates in TCHD’s jurisdiction (Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas Counties) (Figure)**
  - An increase in the rate of ILI-related ED visits and an increase in the rate of positive influenza ED visits was identified during over the past 1-2 weeks in TCHD’s jurisdiction.
  - Based on virologic data from CDPHE, we are seeing more disease due to influenza type A H3N2 now as compared with earlier in the season when type H1N1 predominated. Influenza B viruses are also co-circulating.

- **Reminders Regarding ILI Prevention and Control Measures for Influenza Season**
  - Ensure all employees are vaccinated, monitor vaccination rates, and promote ongoing community vaccination.
  - Continue reporting hospitalized influenza cases to monitor disease severity.
  - Encourage pre-hospital partners to continue droplet precautions for patients with respiratory symptoms.

Figure. Rates of ILI and Influenza-Related ED Visits in Syndromic Surveillance, by Week (week of 11/04/2018 - week of 02/24/2019)
Adams, Arapahoe, and Douglas Counties, Colorado

*The rate for the week of 02/24/2019 was calculated based on the most current data from 02/24/2019 to 02/27/2019.*

Contact Information:
Yushuan Chen, Syndromic Surveillance Epidemiologist
Tri-County Health Department, Colorado
Email: ychen@tchd.org  Office:720-200-1481  Website: [http://www.tchd.org/](http://www.tchd.org/)