**Syndromic Surveillance Notification Report**

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

For Information Only

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

- **Purpose**
  
  ◊ To notify partners regarding a recent increased influenza activity as reflected by an increase in the percentage of ED visits via our Syndromic Surveillance system for the flu season of 2019-2020.

- **Definitions for influenza-like illness (ILI) and influenza-related ED visits using 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).

- **Percent of Influenza-Related ED Visits in TCHD’s jurisdiction (Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas Counties) (Figure)**
  
  ◊ A slight increase in the percent of ILI-related ED visits was identified in TCHD’s jurisdiction as well as Colorado North Central Region (CO-NCR) area (Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson counties) this week.
  
  ◊ TCHD encourages health care providers to review the influenza reporting criteria and vaccination requirements for health care workers [HERE](#).
  
  ◊ Colorado weekly updated influenza information can be found on the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment [website](#).

- **Reminders Regarding ILI Prevention and Control Measures for Influenza Season**
  
  ◊ Review your agency/facility employee health policy and procedure for the upcoming influenza season, particularly illness exclusion policies and procedures.
  
  ◊ Promote influenza vaccination for all employees and monitor vaccination rates.
  
  ◊ The impact of the early flu season in the southern hemisphere has not yet been determined by CDC. We are closely monitoring our ED visits for influenza-like illness and we will share timely updates with our partners. Please see [CDC Flu News & Spotlights](#) HERE for more flu information.

*The percentage for the week of 09/29/2019 was calculated based on the most current data from 09/29/2019 to 10/02/2019.*

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