## RESPIRATORY ILLNESS REPORT

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES (SJCPHS)
OCTOBER 2012—JANUARY 2013 (WEEK 40, 2012—WEEK 2, 2013)

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## Influenza

### San Joaquin County:

- Based on surveillance indicators, SJC is starting to see an increase in flu activity (**Figures 1-3**).
- One influenza-related intensive care unit (ICU) admittance and no influenza-related deaths among persons under age 65 have been reported to SJCPHS so far this season.

#### California:

- California's overall influenza activity was upgraded from "regional" to "widespread" because of an increase in influenzalike illness, influenza laboratory detections and flu outbreaks in multiple regions during week 2 (1/6/13-1/12/13).
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has received five reports of influenza-associated death among persons under age 65 and three reports of lab-confirmed flu outbreaks as of week 2.

#### **United States:**

- 5,249 confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations and 29 influenza-related pediatric deaths have been reported in the U.S. as of week 2.
- Influenza A detections comprise the majority of positive influenza specimens (82.5%). Of the influenza A specimens that were subtyped (54.9%), almost all (97.3%) were H<sub>3</sub> and the remaining were 2009 H<sub>1</sub>N<sub>1</sub>.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
   estimates that this season's flu vaccine is moderately (62%)
   effective in preventing healthcare utilization for influenza associated acute respiratory infection (ARI).
- Almost 90% of specimens which have been strain-typed this season match the 2012-2013 influenza vaccine.
- No isolates tested to date by CDC and CDPH have shown antiviral resistance to neuraminidase inhibitors (e.g., Tamiflu<sup>®</sup>).

## Severe Rhinovirus

- SJCPHS Laboratory isolated rhinovirus from 27 of 56 (48.2%) positive respiratory isolates from 10/01/12 through 1/14/13 (Figure 3).
- Rhinovirus is the predominant cause of the common cold.
   The high number of positive specimens isolated from hospitalized patients in SJC indicates that the currently circulating variant is causing more severe illness.

#### **Novel Coronavirus**

- Since April 2012, a strain of coronavirus previously unseen in humans has been identified in nine adults in the countries of Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan. No cases have been reported in the United States.
- Five of the nine patients (55.6%) identified with this novel coronavirus have died.
- This novel coronavirus is associated with severe respiratory illness (i.e., cough, shortness of breath, pneumonia, fever) and renal failure.

# Figure 1. Percent of absences due to ILI, Manteca Unified School District, 2009—YTD 2013

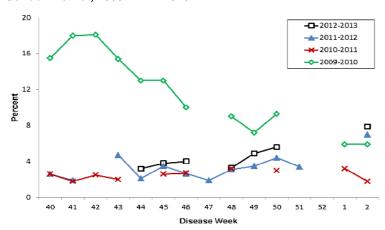


Figure 2. Percent of patients seen at the student health center with ILI, University of the Pacific, 2009—YTD 2013

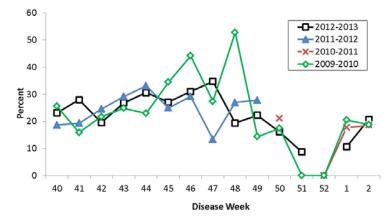
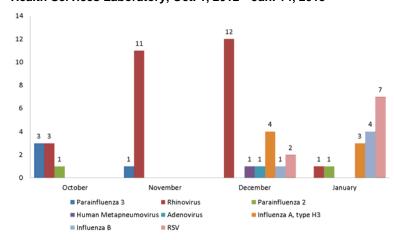


Figure 3. Respiratory isolates (n=56), San Joaquin County Public Health Services Laboratory, Oct. 1, 2012—Jan. 14, 2013



For questions relating to SJC data or this report, contact: Karen Pfister, Supervising Epidemiologist, at (209) 468-9841

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For information on Influenza in California: http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/pages/influenza(flu).aspx

For information on Influenza in the United States: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm