Influenza Activity and Surveillance

Laboratory:
There were 209 laboratory positive influenza results among DON beneficiaries during Week 52. Despite decreased case counts this week, overall positivity rates are comparable to last week, indicating the decreased number of laboratory positive results may be due to a decline in testing. More

Antivirals:
There were 363 influenza-specific antiviral (AV) medications prescribed to DON beneficiaries this week, four times the seasonal baseline. More

Influenza-Like Illness:
Overall, 6.7% of outpatient medical encounters were due to influenza-like illness (ILI); this was below the seasonal baseline. More

Severity Indicators

Inpatient:
Six of the 33 inpatient influenza tests performed during Week 52 were positive. Thirteen inpatient AV prescriptions were dispensed this week. No inpatient cases were reported to DRSi during Week 52. More

Coinfections:
There were seven bacterial coinfections identified among DON beneficiaries since our last report. More

Select Populations

Active Duty & Recruits:
In Week 52, 18 Navy and 12 Marine Corps active duty service members had laboratory positive influenza results. Ten recruits (6 Navy, 4 Marine Corps) had a positive influenza laboratory test. More

NHRC reports moderately elevated febrile respiratory illness (FRI) rates at NRTC Great Lakes and MCRD San Diego during Week 51. More

Children:
Laboratory influenza rates in the 0-4 and 5-17 age groups were 21.9 and 22.9 per 100,000, respectively. There were 144 AV prescriptions dispensed to children this week; eight times the seasonal baseline. More

Contact Information: Gosia Nowak, 757-953-0979, gosia.nowak@med.navy.mil ~ On the Web: http://go.usa.gov/DtUC
Laboratory:

- There were 209 positive influenza laboratory results identified among DON beneficiaries in Week 52 (190 type A, 11 type B, 1 type A&B, 7 non-specific).
  - The number of cases this week remains twice the seasonal baseline.
  - The number of influenza tests administered among DON beneficiaries declined compared to the previous week, but overall positivity (27.9%) remained relatively unchanged.
- The most laboratory positive cases this week occurred at NH Jacksonville (39), Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital (17), NMC San Diego (16), WRNMMC (14), and NH Camp Lejeune (14).
- NH Camp Lejeune has had the most cumulative cases since week 40 (177), followed by NH Jacksonville (147), and NH Pensacola (80).
- In Week 52, most cases were positive by rapid testing (84.2%), followed by PCR (12.9%), and culture (2.9%).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proportion of Testing Types among Positive Influenza Tests</th>
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<td>Week 52</td>
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<td>Season</td>
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Antivirals:

- There were 363 influenza-specific antiviral (AV) medications prescribed to DON beneficiaries this week (all oseltamivir).
- Although trending downward, antiviral prescriptions during Week 52 were still more than four times the seasonal baseline.
- Thirteen of the antiviral prescriptions during Week 52 were in the inpatient setting.
- There have been 1,671 AVs prescribed to DON beneficiaries this season (1,658 oseltamivir, 13 amantadine).
Influenza-Like Illness:
- During Week 52, 6.7% of outpatient medical encounters among DON beneficiaries included ICD-9-CM diagnostic codes for influenza-like illness (ILI); this was below the seasonal baseline.
- Among ER visits, 18.7% of medical encounters contained ILI ICD-9-CM diagnostic codes, which was also below the seasonal baseline.

Immunizations

Vaccination Coverage:
- 86.6% of Navy and 79.1% of Marine Corps active duty service members have received an influenza vaccine.
- Reserve vaccination rates are slightly below the rates of active duty service members (86.1% Navy, 74.2% Marine Corps).
- The majority (28) of the 30 of laboratory-identified active duty influenza cases during Week 52 had a record of vaccination at least 14 days prior to infection.

Severity Indicators

Inpatient Surveillance:
- There were 33 inpatient influenza tests performed among DON beneficiaries in Week 52; six were positive.
  - Five of this week’s cases were influenza type A (one 0-4 years, two 18-44 years and two 45+ years) and one was type B (age 45+).
- Thirteen AV medications were prescribed in the inpatient setting this week.
  - Inpatient AVs were dispensed to patients across all age groups: 0-4 (3), 5-17 (1), 18-44 (2), 45+ (7).
  - NMC San Diego had the most inpatient AVs dispensed (4), followed by NH Jacksonville (3), and WRNMMC (2).
- There were no influenza-associated hospitalizations reported to DRSi this week.

Coinfections:
- During Week 52, seven bacterial coinfections were identified among DON laboratory positive influenza patients; the percent of patients with a bacterial coinfections (3.3%) remains low.
- Four upper respiratory Streptococcus infections were identified among children in four separate outpatient settings this week.
- One lower respiratory Pseudomonas infection was identified in an inpatient setting this week.
**Select Populations**

**Active Duty**
- There were 30 laboratory positive influenza results among DON active duty service members in Week 52; all were type A positive in an outpatient setting.
  - The largest number of cases were identified at WRNMMC (4), NH Camp Pendleton (3), NMC San Diego (3), NH Pensacola (3), NH Jacksonville (3).
  - Two of the 30 DON active duty influenza cases had no vaccination record.
- The majority of DON active duty laboratory positive cases this week (93.3%) and this season (77.4%) were vaccinated at least 14 days prior to infection.
- There were 49 AVs dispensed to active duty service members at 33 facilities during Week 52 (all oseltamivir).

**Recruits:**
- Six Navy recruits (3 type A; 3 type unknown) and four Marine Corps recruits (all type A) were laboratory positive this week.
  - All cases were identified in outpatient settings at NH Beaufort (4), Lovell FHCC - Great Lakes (3), Ft. Sam Houston (1), Ft. Belvoir (1), and NH Bremerton (1).
- There were seven AV’s dispensed to recruits at NH Beaufort (3), NH Bremerton (1), Lovell FHCC - Great Lakes (1), NBHC Parris Island (1), and Brooke Army Medical Center (1) (all oseltamivir).

**Children:**
- The rates of positive influenza results in the 0-4 and 5-17 age groups in Week 52 were 21.9 and 22.9 per 100,000, respectively.
- There were 144 AV medications prescribed to children during Week 52; although the trend declined compared to last week, the number of AVs dispensed to children during Week 52 remains eight times the seasonal baseline.

**Other Age Groups:**
- During Week 52, laboratory influenza rates among the 18-44 and 45+ age groups were 8.9 and 9.6 per 100,000, respectively.

**In the News**
- CDC reports influenza activity continuing to rise across the US, with all 10 CDC regions reporting clinic visits for ILI above their baselines. [More](#)
- Strains of both highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) and low-pathogenicity H5 avian flu have been reported in birds in Russia, Taiwan, South Korea, and Japan. [More](#)