**Influenza Surveillance Report**  
*Week 44: November 1st – 7th, 2009*

I. Influenza Summary to Date  
Influenza surveillance for suburban Cook County** involves the weekly collection of data from a sample of hospitals, private physician’s offices, and laboratory data. Our sentinel participants reported the following aggregate measures: Syndromic Surveillance: 6.78% ILI, Sentinel Sites: 16.02% ILI. 1,267 (36.44%) specimens tested by participating laboratories were positive for influenza, of which 99.86% of sub-typed influenza A viruses were 2009 H1N1. This is the seventh straight week that influenza activity has increased, and the activity level for week 44 is 4% higher than the previous week. To date, suburban Cook County has had 286 hospitalized cases of confirmed 2009 H1N1, 9 2009 H1N1 deaths, and 1 pediatric influenza death. In week 44, thirty-four 2009 H1N1 hospitalizations were reported to CCDPH. Thank you to all of our surveillance partners for their help in collecting this information.

II. Syndromic Surveillance Data

![Syndromic Surveillance Data Graph](image)

III. Syndromic Surveillance by Age Group Data

![Syndromic Surveillance by Age Group Data](image)
IV. Sentinel Provider Data

- **Baseline**
- **2007**
- **2008**
- **2009**

V. Laboratory Surveillance Data

VI. 2009 H1N1 Hospitalization and Death Data
VII. Regional Data


1. Syndromic surveillance influenza-like-illness (ILI) syndrome is defined as a symptom complex fever and cough or sore throat from ESSENCE. 32 hospital EDs participate in ESSENCE. ILI = # of ED visits for ILI / total # of ED visits.

2. ILI is defined as fever $\geq 100^\circ F$, cough and/or sore throat in the absence of a known cause other than influenza. 5 hospital EDs and 8 physician offices are participating CDC sentinel sites.

3. Laboratory surveillance includes viral culture, RT-PCR, and the rapid antigen test. Not all cases are suburban Cook County Residents. Participating laboratories: IDPH, NSUHS, and ACL.

4. Hospitalization and death data are only for suburban Cook County residents (excludes Evanston, Skokie, Oak Park, and Stickney). Data includes reported cases for the presented week.

5. [Link](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm)†

† No activity: no laboratory confirmed cases of influenza and no reported increase in cases of ILI.

Sporadic: small number of laboratory confirmed influenza cases or a single laboratory confirmed influenza in a single region of the state.

Local: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI and recent laboratory confirmed influenza in a single region of the state.

Regional: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI and recent laboratory confirmed influenza in at least two but less than half the region of the state.

Widespread: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory confirmed influenza in at least half the region in the state.

VIII. Illinois and U.S. Data

(All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received.)