



Seasonal Influenza Report 2015-16

San Mateo County Health System, Public Health Policy and Planning
Weeks 48 & 49 (Nov 29 to Dec 12, 2015)

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Current Influenza Activity

San Mateo County

- During week 49 (ending 12/12/15), San Mateo County reported minimal influenza activity.
- Week 49 of the current season has a similar number of influenza detections as week 49 of the previous season (Figures 1 and 2).
- Within the County, based on reports from reporting county and hospital laboratories*, a total of 651 specimens have been tested for influenza since the beginning of influenza season, and one (0.2%) tested positive for influenza during week 49. A total of 169 specimens have been tested for RSV since the beginning of the influenza season with two (1.2%) testing positive during week 49 (Figures 1, 3, and 4).
- San Mateo County Public Health Laboratory (SMC PHL) has the ability to further subtype positive influenza A specimens. During week 49, no specimen in the SMC PHL tested positive for influenza.
- Influenza-like illness (ILI) surveillance of chief complaint data from San Mateo Medical Center ED is low and similar to activity for the same period last season (Figure 5).

California

- Influenza activity in California was reported as "sporadic" in week 49.
- Of 1,344 specimens tested, 23 (1.7%) were positive for influenza. Of the positive specimens, 12 (52.2%) were influenza A, of which one (8.3%) was H1, three (25.0%) were H3, and eight (67.7%) were not subtyped. The remaining 11 (47.8%) tested positive for influenza B.
- Outpatient visits for ILI were similar at 1.9% in week 49 compared to 1.8% in week 48.
- There were no influenza-associated deaths in an adult less than 65 years of age reported during week 49.
- Hospital visits for Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) for week 49 were slightly lower (5.0%) than week 48 (5.2%) but are within expected levels for this time of year.†

United States

- During week 49, influenza activity saw a slight increase in the United States.
- Of the 12,525 specimens tested by clinical laboratories, 208 (1.7%) were positive for influenza, of which 117 (56.3%) were influenza A and 91 (43.8%) were influenza B.
- Of the 786 specimens tested by public health laboratories, 41 (5.2%) were positive for influenza. Of the positive specimens, 30 (73.2%) were influenza A, of which 17 (56.7%) were H1 and 11 (36.7%) were H3, with two (6.7%) with no subtyping performed. The 11 (26.8%) remaining specimens were influenza B, of which four (36.4%) were of Yamagata lineage and seven (63.6%) had no lineage performed.
- No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported for the current year during week 49.
- During week 49, 6.0% of all deaths reported through the 122-Cities Mortality Reporting System were due to P&I. This percentage was below the epidemic threshold of 6.7% for week 49.
- One state (SC) experienced high ILI activity; one state (NJ) experienced moderate ILI activity; two states (MN, VA) experienced low ILI activity; the remaining 46 states experienced minimal ILI activity.

Figure 3 Percentage of Positive Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Specimens from Reporting Labs San Mateo County, 2014-16

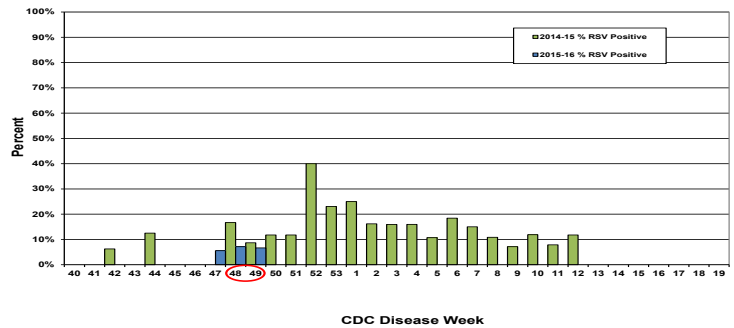


Figure 4 Percentage of Positive Influenza Specimens from Reporting Labs San Mateo County, 2014-16

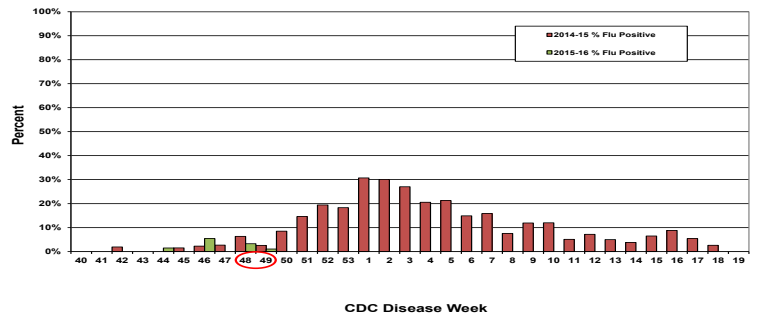


Figure 5 Proportion of Influenza-like Illness Visits (ILI): San Mateo County Medical Center ED, 2014-16 Influenza Seasons

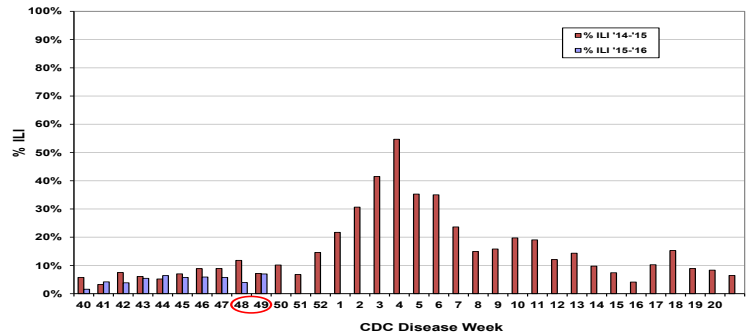


Figure 1 Number of Positive Influenza & RSV Tests by Week San Mateo County, 2013-16

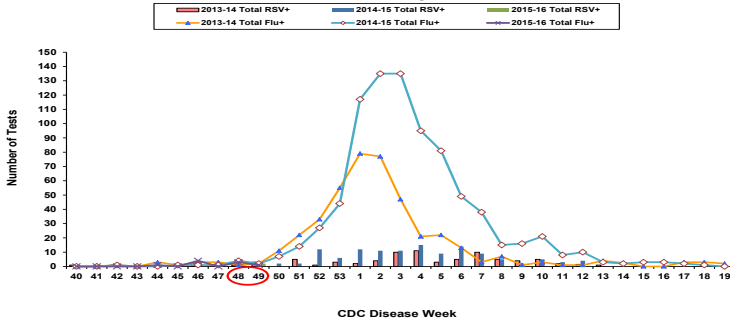
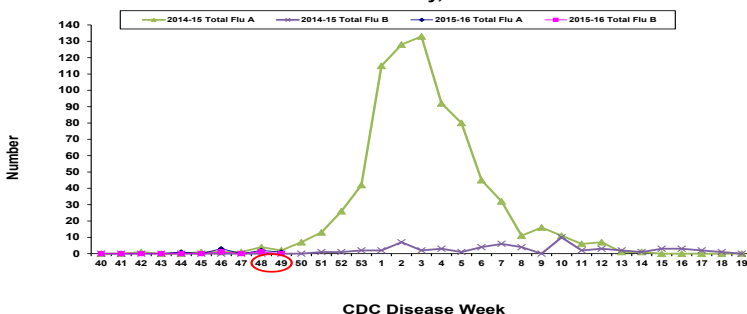


Figure 2 Number of Positive Influenza Tests by Type and Week, San Mateo County, 2014-16



TEST OR TREAT?

Flu activity in San Mateo County is sporadic. One specimen during week 49 tested positive for influenza.

- Test outpatients with suspected flu and high risk of complications, who are being considered for antiviral treatment. Empiric treatment in outpatients with ILI is not indicated at this time. Consider testing children <2 years of age to rule out RSV vs. influenza.
- Test hospitalized patients with suspected flu. Consider empiric treatment in severely ill hospitalized (ICU) cases with suspected influenza.
- Antivirals used for treatment: Oseltamivir or Zanamivir.

*Our reported numbers do not represent all cases of influenza within SMC, but are intended to demonstrate trends in influenza activity. This issue does not represent data from Kaiser.
Sources: SMC: San Mateo Medical Center, Sequoia Hospital, Mills-Peninsula Hospital, San Mateo County Public Health Lab; CA: California Influenza Surveillance Project: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/vrdl/Pages/CaliforniaInfluenzaSurveillanceProject.aspx>; US: CDC Flu Activity and Surveillance: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>
†This data reflects Kaiser hospitalizations only.