Highlights

- In week 7 of 2018, the individual preliminary local flu activity indicator trends were mixed compared to the previous week. As a whole, flu intensity (composite indicator) continues to be high.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click here for definitions) = WIDESPREAD, HIGH
- Local medical facility labs reported 2,198 tests run with 453 (20.6%) positive results for week 7 of 2018. A few lab reporters were not able to submit this week, thus the data is subject to change when data is received.
- The percentage of ED visits for influenza-like-illness (ILI) decreased slightly and respiratory symptom visits were stable compared to last week. The percentage of ED visits for both ILI and respiratory symptoms continue to be above their respective baseline averages for the week.
- In week 7 of 2018, trends for local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (increase in thermometer and pediatric anti-fever sales; decrease in cough and cold, electrolyte, chest rub, and throat lozenge sales; stable adult anti-fever sales) compared to last week.
- Nationally, influenza activity remained elevated in week 7 of 2018. Please visit the CDC website for specific information (National data is usually updated on Friday of each week).

Local Flu Activity Dashboard (All data are preliminary and may change as updated reports are received.)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Week Number(s) Available</th>
<th>Current Week Value</th>
<th>% Change Chart from Last Week</th>
<th># Weeks</th>
<th>General Trend Line Chart (black = current, red = historical avg.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical Facility Lab Data</td>
<td>35-7</td>
<td>20.6% Pos.**</td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>1 ▼</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>athenaHealth® Network PCP Flu or ILI Visit</td>
<td>35-7</td>
<td>25.7 per 1,000 visits</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1 •</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS Cold/Flu Symptom Runs</td>
<td>35-7</td>
<td>65 runs</td>
<td>-17.7%</td>
<td>1 ▼</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Absences</td>
<td>35-7</td>
<td>11.3% Absent</td>
<td>-22.7%</td>
<td>1 ▼</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital ED Data:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaint Defined as ILI</td>
<td>35-7</td>
<td>25.7% of All ED Visits</td>
<td>-2.3%</td>
<td>1 ▼</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Categorized as Respiratory</td>
<td>35-7</td>
<td>20.5% of All ED Visits</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>1 •</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medication Data:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTC Cough &amp; Cold Sales</td>
<td>35-7</td>
<td>21,992 Total Sales</td>
<td>-5.4%</td>
<td>2 ▼</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermometer</td>
<td>35-7</td>
<td>399 Total Sales</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>4 ▲</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations</td>
<td>35-7</td>
<td>74 Admitted (986 Since wk. 35, 2017)</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Reportable Conditions (Cumulative Numbers as of Feb. 22, 2018)

<table>
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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influenza Associated Hospitalizations (IAH) Reported by Admission Year</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAH comparison by Season (October - May or Weeks 35 - 20)</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>986</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Interpret with caution. Indicators with small numbers subject to large weekly percentage fluctuations.
2Number of weeks "▲" = Increase (>2%), "▼" = Decrease (>2%), "0" = Stable (-2% to +2%).
3Black line is current years data. Based on data availability, red line is historical average (excluding pandemic year).
4Data Source: Medical claims data from athenaHealth® (www.athenahealth.com). Rate of Flu or ILI visits to Franklin County, OH athenaHealth® network primary care practices/physicians. Claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.
5Franklin County, OH residents only (based on zipcode). NOTE: Excludes one hospital system included in the past due to technical changes affecting visit classification assignment and numbers.
6Confirmed cases only. Based on jurisdiction equal to Franklin County or City of Columbus and admission date available in ODRS.
Influenza Morbidity and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports

In week 7, the preliminary local influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® providers (25.7 per 1,000 visits) was stable compared to the previous week and is above its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 7 percentage of all Emergency Department (ED) visits categorized as ILI decreased slightly compared to the previous week (Figure 3) and is above its historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 7 of 2018, 6.4% of patient visits reported through ILINet were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). The percentage is above the national baseline of 2.2% for week 7.

Laboratory Surveillance

A few reporters were not able to submit this week, thus the data is subject to change when data is received. During week 7 of 2018, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 2,198 specimens, with 453 (20.6%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2017 through week 7 of 2018 is 44,052 with 8,518 (19.3%) positives (7,015 type A, 1,499 type B, 3 type A and B, 1 type unknown).

Nationally in week 7 of 2018, clinical laboratories reported 54,063 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 13,730 (25.4%) of which were positive (7,987 type A, 5,743 type B). Public health laboratories reported testing 1,681 specimens, 985 of which were positive (636 type A – of which 143 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 469 were H3N2, and 24 were not subtyped; 349 type B – of which 245 were Yamagata lineage, 31 were Victoria lineage, and 73 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data.

In week 7, Ohio clinical labs reported 52,135 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (114) A(H1N1)pdm09; (518) A/H3N2; (8,704) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (1,694) Flu B (through 2/17/18). In week 7, ODH Public Health Lab reported 1,106 specimens tested for influenza from various submitters this season thus far. Positive results include: (92) A(H1N1)pdm09; (658) A/H3N2; (87) Influenza B (through 2/10/18). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

ED Respiratory Visits

In the 7th week of 2018, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as respiratory was stable compared to the percentage seen the previous week and is above its historic baseline for the week (Figure 5).

Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medication Sales

In week 7 of 2018, trends for local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (increase in thermometer and pediatric anti-fever sales; decrease in cough and cold, electrolyte, chest rub, and throat lozenge sales; stable adult anti-fever sales) compared to last week.

Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:
Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: http://www.odh.ohio.gov/seasflu/Ohio%20Flu%20Activity.aspx
CDC National Seasonal Flu Surveillance Reports: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

Figure 1: Local Participating Outpatient Primary Care Provider Influenza or Influenza-Like-Illness Visit Rate*, Franklin County, OH

Figure 2: Percentage of Local Outpatient Participating Provider* visits for ILI and Associated Illnesses, 2017-18

Figure 3: Franklin County Resident ILI Defined** ED Visits, 2017-18, Franklin County, OH

Figure 4: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2017-18

*Source: Medical Claims data from athenaHealth®

Note: athenaHealth® claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.

**Chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough.
ILI chief complaint classifier category includes fever and sore throat.
ILI chief complaint includes "ILI."

Figure 5: Franklin County Resident Respiratory ED Visits, 2017-18, Franklin County, OH

Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Total Sales, 2017-18, Franklin County, OH

Figure 7: Columbus and Franklin County Jurisdiction Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations by Hospital Admission Week (As of 2/22/2018)

Columbus and Franklin County, OH Jurisdiction Confirmed Influenza Hospitalization Cumulative Rates (per 100,000) by Age-Group and Admission Week, 2017-2018 Season

*Note: Certain years have a 53rd week (e.g., season 2014-15) based on CDCs MMWR Weeks.