### Highlights

- In week 1 of 2016, the individual local flu activity indicator trends were mixed. Overall, local flu intensity was slightly higher compared to the previous week and continues to be low.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = SPORADIC, LOW
- Local medical facility labs reported 1,027 tests run with 8 (0.8%) positive results for week 1 of 2016. This is slightly higher than last week’s 0.7% and is lower than the weekly baseline.
- The percentage of ED visits for influenza-like-illness (ILI), as well as respiratory symptoms, were both stable compared to week 52. The percentage of ED visits for ILI is slightly above its baseline average for the week, while respiratory symptom visits are similar to its baseline average for the week.
- In week 1 of 2016, the majority of trends for all local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (decrease in cough and cold, thermometer, pediatric anti-fever and adult anti-fever sales; increase in electrolyte and chest rub sales; stable throat lozenge sales) compared to last week.
- Nationally in week 1, influenza activity increased slightly in the United States. 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.*

| Indicators | Week Number(s) Available | Current Week Value | % Change Chart from Last Week | # Weeks | General Trend Line Chart
|------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|---------|----------------------
| Medical Facility Lab Data | 35-1 | 0.8% Pos. | red | 15% | ▲ |
| athenaHealth® Network PCP Flu or ILI Visit | 35-1 | 1.7 per 1,000 visits | green | -46% | ▼ |
| EMS Cold/Flu Symptom Runs | 35-1 | 44 runs | red | 18.9% | ▲ |
| School Absences | 35-1 | 8.3% Absent | Update not available due to winter break |

### Hospital ED Data:

- **Complaint Defined as ILI**
  - Week 35-1: 19.7% of All ED Visits
  - Week 36-1: Increase (2%), "▲" = Increase (>2%), "▼" = Decrease (>2%), "≈" = Stable (-2% to +2%).

- **Categorized as Respiratory**
  - Week 35-1: 16.2% of All ED Visits
  - Week 36-1: Decrease (4%), "▼" = Decrease (>2%).

### Pediatric Urgent Care Data:

- **Complaint Defined as ILI**
  - Week 35-1: 1 Admitted
  - Week 36-1: 1 Admitted

### Medication Data:

- **OTC Cough & Cold Sales**
  - Week 35-1: 16,236 Total Sales
  - Week 36-1: Decrease (7.1%), "▼" = Decrease (>2%).

- **Thermometer**
  - Week 35-1: 65 Total Sales
  - Week 36-1: Decrease (27.8%), "▼" = Decrease (>2%).

### Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations</th>
<th>35-1</th>
<th>1 Admitted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Reportable Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reportable Conditions (Cumulative Numbers as of Jan. 13, 2016, 2:00 PM)</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016 YTD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influenza Associated Hospitalizations (IAH) Reported by Admission Year*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current season (2015-16) is from week 35 through 1</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>949</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Interpret with caution. Indicators with small numbers subject to large weekly percentage fluctuations.

**Number of weeks “▲” = Increase (>2%), “▼” = Decrease (>2%), “≈” = Stable (-2% to +2%).

**Black line is current years data. Based on data availability, red line is historical average (excluding pandemic year).

**Data 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.

**Franklin 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.

**Confirmed cases only. Based on jurisdiction equal to Franklin County or City of Columbus and admission date available in ODRS.
CDC 122-Cities Mortality Reporting System: Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality
In week 1 of 2016, 5.4% of all Columbus and Franklin County deaths were attributed to pneumonia and influenza. Nationally in week 1, 6.4% of deaths reported were attributed to pneumonia and influenza. This national percentage was below the national epidemic threshold of 7.0% for week 1.

Influenza Morbidity and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports
In week 1, the preliminary local influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® providers (1.7 per 1,000 visits) decreased compared to the previous week and is below its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 1 percentage of Emergency Department (ED) visits for ILI were stable compared to the previous week (Figure 3) and is slightly higher than the historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 1 of 2016, 2.0% of patient visits reported through ILINet were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). The percentage is below the national baseline of 2.1% for week 1.

Laboratory Surveillance
During week 1 of 2016, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 1,027 specimens, with 8 (0.8%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2014 through week 1 of 2016 is 14,670 with 114 (0.8%) positives (76 type A, 34 type B, 4 both A and B, 0 type unknown).

Nationally in week 1 of 2016, clinical laboratories reported 14,269 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 428 (3.0%) of which were positive (292 type A, 136 type B). Public health laboratories reported testing 929 specimens, 112 of which were positive (94 type A – of which 58 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 15 were A/H3, and 21 were not subtyped; 18 type B – of which 8 were Yamagata lineage, 4 were Victoria lineage, and 6 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data since week 40.

In week 1 of 2016, participating Ohio clinical labs reported 10,504 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (1) A(H1N1)pdm09; (2) A/H3N2; (17) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (13) Flu B (through 1/9/16). ODH Public Health Lab reported 88 specimens tested for influenza from various submitters this season thus far. Positive results include: (4) A(H1N1)pdm09; (1) A/H3N2; (1) Influenza B (through 1/9/16). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

ED Respiratory Visits
In the 1st week of 2016, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as respiratory was stable compared to the percentage seen the previous week and is slightly lower than its historic baseline for the week (Figure 5).

Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medication Sales
In week 1 of 2016, trends for the majority of local over-the-counter medication sales being tracked were mixed (decrease in cough and cold, thermometer, pediatric anti-fever and adult anti-fever sales; increase in electrolyte and chest rub sales; stable throat lozenge sales) compared to last week.

Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:
CDC National Seasonal Flu Surveillance Reports: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/
CDC International Flu Activity Map: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/international/activity.htm
Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 1, 2016 (1/3/2016-1/9/2016)

Figure 5: Franklin County Resident Respiratory ED Visits, 2015-16, Franklin County, OH

Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Sales, 2015-16, Franklin County, OH

Figure 7: Franklin County Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations by Hospital Admission Week (As of 2:00 PM, 1/13/2016)

Franklin County, OH, Confirmed Influenza Hospitalization Cumulative Rates (per 100,000) by Age-Group and Admission Week, 2015-2016 Season