### Highlights

- In week 8 of 2017, the individual local flu activity indicator trends were mixed compared to last week, with the majority above their baseline averages. As a whole, flu intensity (composite indicator) continued to be high for week 8.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click here for definitions) = WIDESPREAD, HIGH
- Local medical facility labs reported 3,526 tests run with 1,077 (30.5%) positive results for week 8 of 2017. This is higher than last week’s 28.5% and is higher than the weekly baseline.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptoms increased compared to last week. The percentage of ED visits for both ILI and respiratory symptoms are above their respective baseline averages for the week.
- In week 8 of 2017, the trends for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales; decrease in thermometer and chest-rub sales; stable cough and cold and electrolyte sales) compared to last week.
- Nationally, influenza activity remained elevated 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.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Week Number</th>
<th>Current Week</th>
<th>% Change Chart from Last Week</th>
<th># Weeks</th>
<th>General Trend Line Chart</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical Facility Lab Data</td>
<td>35-8</td>
<td>30.5% Pos.</td>
<td>(-)</td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>athenaHealth® Network PCP Flu or ILI Visit</td>
<td>35-8</td>
<td>9.4 per 1,000 visits</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4 ▲</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS Cold/Flu Symptom Runs</td>
<td>35-8</td>
<td>62 runs</td>
<td>(-)</td>
<td>1 ▼</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Absences</td>
<td>35-8</td>
<td>11.8% Absent</td>
<td>(-)</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>35-8</td>
<td>25.2% of All ED Visits</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Categorized as Respiratory</td>
<td>35-8</td>
<td>20.6% of All ED Visits</td>
<td>12.7%</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>35-8</td>
<td>20,884 Total Sales</td>
<td>-1.0%</td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermometer</td>
<td>35-8</td>
<td>190 Total Sales</td>
<td>-6.9%</td>
<td>2 ▼</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations</td>
<td>35-8</td>
<td>77 Admitted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Reportable Conditions (Cumulative Numbers as of Mar. 3, 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Influenza Associated Death Reported by Year (based on date of death)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza Associated Hospitalizations (IAH) Reported by Admission Year</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Interpret with caution. Indicators with small numbers subject to large weekly percentage fluctuations.
2. Number of weeks: “▲” = Increase (>2%), “▼” = Decrease (>2%), “▲” = Stable (-2% to +2%).
3. Black line is current years data. Based on data availability, red line is historical average (excluding pandemic year).
4. 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.
5. Franklin County, OH residents only (based on zip code). NOTE: Excludes one hospital system included in the past due to technical changes affecting visit classification assignment and numbers.
6. Confirmed 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 8, the preliminary local influenza and influenza-like-Illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® providers (9.4 per 1,000 visits) increased compared to the previous week and is above its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 8 percentage of all Emergency Department (ED) visits categorized as ILI increased compared to the previous week (Figure 3) and is above its historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 8 of 2016, 4.8% 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 8.

Labatory Surveillance
During week 8 of 2017, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 3,526 specimens, with 1,077 (30.5%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2016 through week 8 of 2017 is 31,867 with 4,370 (13.7%) positives (3,408 type A, 957 type B, 5 type A and B, 0 type unknown).

Nationally in week 8 of 2017, clinical laboratories reported 35,124 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 8,515 (24.2%) of which were positive (6,300 type A, 2,215 type B). Public health laboratories reported testing 1,924 specimens, 1,070 of which were positive (884 type A – of which 26 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 804 were A/H3, and 54 were not subtyped; 186 type B – of which 82 were Yamagata lineage, 27 were Victoria lineage, and 77 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data since week 40.

In week 8 of 2017, participating Ohio clinical labs reported 36,916 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (4) A(H1N1)pdm09; (391) A/H3N2; (2,717) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (1,223) Flu B (through 2/25/17). ODH Public Health Lab reported 687 specimens tested for influenza from various submitters this season thus far. Positive results include: (4) A(H1N1)pdm09; (450) A/H3N2; (64) Influenza B (through 2/25/17). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

ED Respiratory Visits
In the 8th week of 2017, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as respiratory increased 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 8 of 2017, the trends for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales; decrease in thermometer and chest-rub sales; stable cough and cold and electrolyte sales) compared to last week.

Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:
Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: https://www.odh.ohio.gov/en/features/odhfeatures/seasflu/Ohio-Flu-Activity
CDC National Seasonal Flu Surveillance Reports: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/
Emergency Department Visits

US Region 5 - Current Year

Local medical claims data provided

3 Year Baseline Average

Local Upper Respiratory Infection Visit*

2015-16

2016-17

US Sentinel Outpatient ILI Visit**

Sentinel Health Care Provider** Site visits for ILI and Associated Illnesses, 2016

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* and CDC National Outpatient Sentinel Health Care Provider** Site visits for ILI and Associated Illnesses, 2016-17

Local Sentinel Outpatient ILI Visit**

**Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits

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

Franklin County Historical Weekly Avg.

Figure 3: Franklin County Resident ILI Defined** ED Visits, 2016-17, Franklin County, OH

Figure 4: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2016-17

**Source: Local medical claims data provided by athenaHealth®. Data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when received.

**Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits