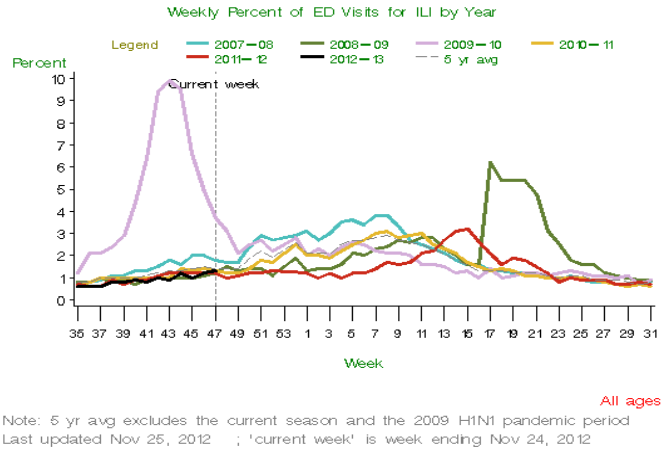
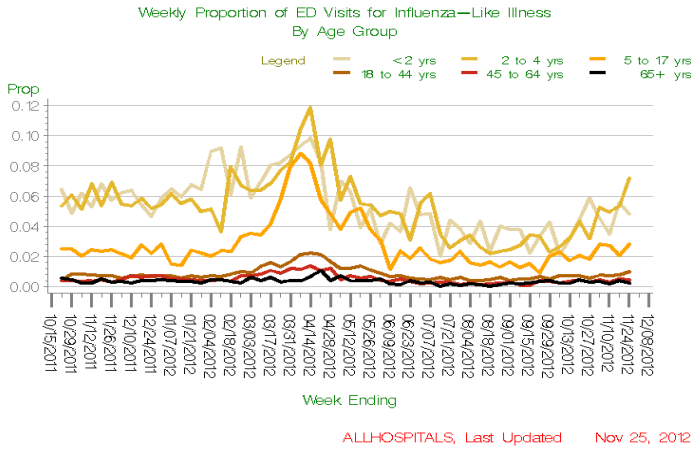
Influenza surveillance summary for week 46 ending November 17, 2012

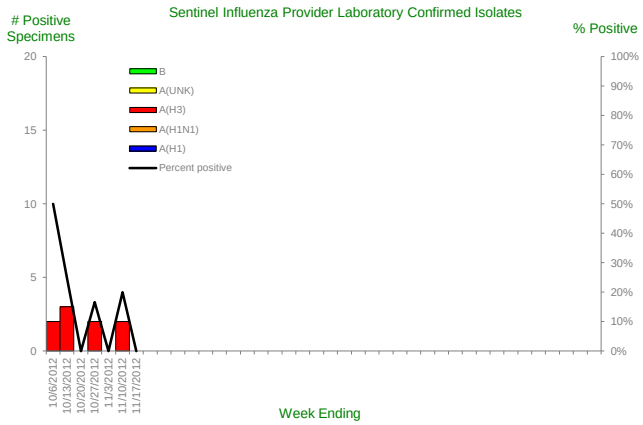
Public Health
Seattle & King County

Influenza continues to be detected at low levels in King County. Initial positive specimens from outpatient surveillance have been identified as influenza A(H3). The proportion of hospital rapid antigen tests positive for flu increased during week 46, where almost all positives identified influenza A. The proportion of emergency deparment visits attributed to influenza-like illness increased among children ages 2 - 17, and also slightly among adults age 18 - 44. Rhinovirus and parainfluenza continue to be the predominant circulating viruses identified by the University of Washington Virology Laboratory, though influena A is also starting to increase.

	Data for this week	Cumulative data this season since October 1, 2011
Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza Deaths	0	0
King County Outpatient Sentinel Influenza Providers		
Specimens Submitted	9	56
Proportion Positive for Influenza	0.0%	Season Peak: 50.0%
A (H1)	0	0
A (H3)	0	9
A (Unknown)	0	0
B	0	0
Hospital Laboratory Influenza Rapid Antigen Test Submissions		
Number of Labs Reporting	6	Weekly Average: 8
Number of Specimens Submitted	131	Weekly Average: 147
Proportion of Tests Positive for Influenza	8.4%	Season Peak: 8.4%
Hospital Emergency Department (ED) Visits for Influenza-like Illness (ILI)		
Proportion of Visits Due to ILI	1.2%	Season Peak: 1.2%
Percent of All King County Deaths Due to Pneumonia and Influenza (P & I)	6.3%	--
National Epidemic Threshold	6.6%	# Weeks Threshold Exceeded: 0
Respiratory Disease Outbreaks at Long-Term Care Facilities (LCTFs)	0	0
Laboratory-Confirmed LTCF Influenza Outbreaks	0	0







Resources

Additional Flu Information, Resources and Surveillance:
www.kingcounty.gov/health/flu

UW Virology Laboratory Respiratory Virus Surveillance:
http://depts.washington.edu/rspvirus/documents/VD2012-13.pdf

Washington State Influenza Surveillance Update:
www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/Epidemiology/CD/fluupdate.pdf

National Influenza Update:
www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

Global Influenza Update:
www.who.int/csr/disease/influenza/en/

^Influenza-like illness is defined as fever and cough *or* sore throat, or specific mention of influenza in chief complaint or discharge diagnosis