



# Influenza Watch

Los Angeles County

<http://lapublichealth.org/acd/flu.htm>

SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM*	Week 50	To Date
Positive Influenza Tests±	0	1
Positive RSV Tests±	4	17
Severe Pediatric Influenza Cases	0 (0) <sup>†</sup>	0 (0) <sup>†</sup>
Influenza Vaccines Administered (PH)	--	83,042

\* See <http://lapublichealth.org/acd/flu.htm> for a description of surveillance methods.

<sup>†</sup>The number of deaths is indicated by the parenthesis.

±Sentinel sites (5-7 participating facilities).

## Important Information

• Influenza activity is low in Los Angeles County -- continue to vaccinate your patients.

• ILI activity in all ages is within baseline levels.

## In the News

### Recent Respiratory Infection Doubles Risk of MI, Stroke

A new case-control study shows a strong link between recent respiratory tract infection and cardiovascular events, with a doubling of risk for myocardial infarction and stroke 7 days after infection.

→ To reduce the risk of respiratory infection, vaccinate your patients and provide them with hand hygiene education (and wash your hands!).

For more information visit:

<http://mp.medscape.com/cgi-bin/1/DW/v/eBee70FSBFk0D1R0I8820Ei>

## Influenza Activity: CA & USA

**California:** During week 49 (December 2–8, 2007), influenza activity in California was **sporadic**, with activity in Northern California higher than Southern California. Outpatient activity and hospitalizations for ILI remained low, as did laboratory detections.

For more information see the CA influenza report: [www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Fluintro.htm](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Fluintro.htm)

### Become a CA Influenza Sentinel Provider:

Contact Melissa Dahlke at [flu@dhs.ca.gov](mailto:flu@dhs.ca.gov) or visit: [www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Flu-sentinel.htm](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Flu-sentinel.htm)

**United States:** A low level of influenza activity was measured in the United States during week 49. The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI and acute respiratory illness (ARI) was below baseline levels. Also, the proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was below the epidemic threshold.

For more information see the CA influenza report: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>

