WEEKLY FLU REPORT

This Report Includes...
⇒ information on influenza-like illness (ILI) activity in Harris County as well as on the state and national level.

Important Notes:
⇒ Influenza-like illness (ILI) is defined as an illness including a fever (temperature of at least 100°F) with a cough OR a sore throat, without another known cause (such as strep throat).
⇒ Influenza/ILI is reported on a voluntary basis and is not a mandatory notifiable condition.
⇒ Similarly, rapid influenza test results are also reported on a voluntary basis.
⇒ Therefore, data presented in this report indicate trends and should not be interpreted as a complete and total picture of influenza activity in Harris County.

Public Health is “what we as a society do collectively to assure the conditions in which people can be healthy”
- The Future of the Public’s Health in the 21st Century, Institutes of Medicine, 2003

Additional Information
Harris County Public Health
http://publichealth.harriscountytx.gov/
Services-Programs/Programs/
Epidemiology

Texas Department of State Health Services
Influenza Surveillance:
http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
FluView Weekly Report:
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly
Information for Schools and Childcare Providers:
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/index.htm

World Health Organization
Influenza Surveillance:
http://www.who.int/topics/influenza/en/
Statewide

No variant influenza viruses have been identified in Texas during this flu season.

Locally

- There were no influenza associated pediatric deaths reported in Harris County (excluding the City of Houston) during this flu season.
Influenza/ILI reporting is voluntary as it is not a mandatory notifiable condition. Therefore, this report indicates trends and should not be interpreted as a complete and total picture of influenza activity in Harris County.

Daily absenteeism and student/staff ILI numbers are reported from schools in the 18 Harris County Independent School Districts (ISDs). Schools were asked to begin reporting ILI from the beginning of the school year; however, reporting participation generally increases as occurrence of ILI increases.

School holidays:
* Week 47/48 (Thanksgiving)
* Week 52-Week 1 (Winter Break)
* Week 10/11 (Spring Break)