



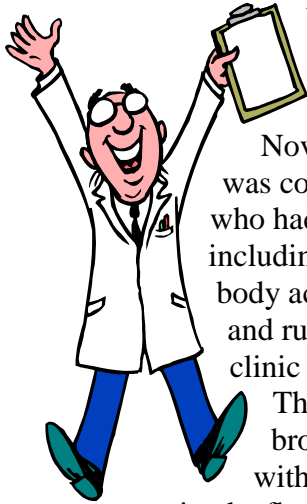
EPI - NEWS

NOVEMBER 23, 2001

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COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM
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INFLUENZA TYPE A IDENTIFIED IN WASHOE COUNTY



Influenza type A was identified by the Nevada State Public Health Laboratory from a culture submitted on November 15, 2001. The culture was collected from a 21-year-old male who had a two-day history of symptoms including sore throat, cough, fatigue, body aches, chest pain, night sweats, and runny nose. On presentation to the clinic the case had a fever of 101.6° F. The case was diagnosed with bronchitis vs. influenza and treated with Zithromax. The case had not received a flu shot this season. Influenza type A subtyping is pending.

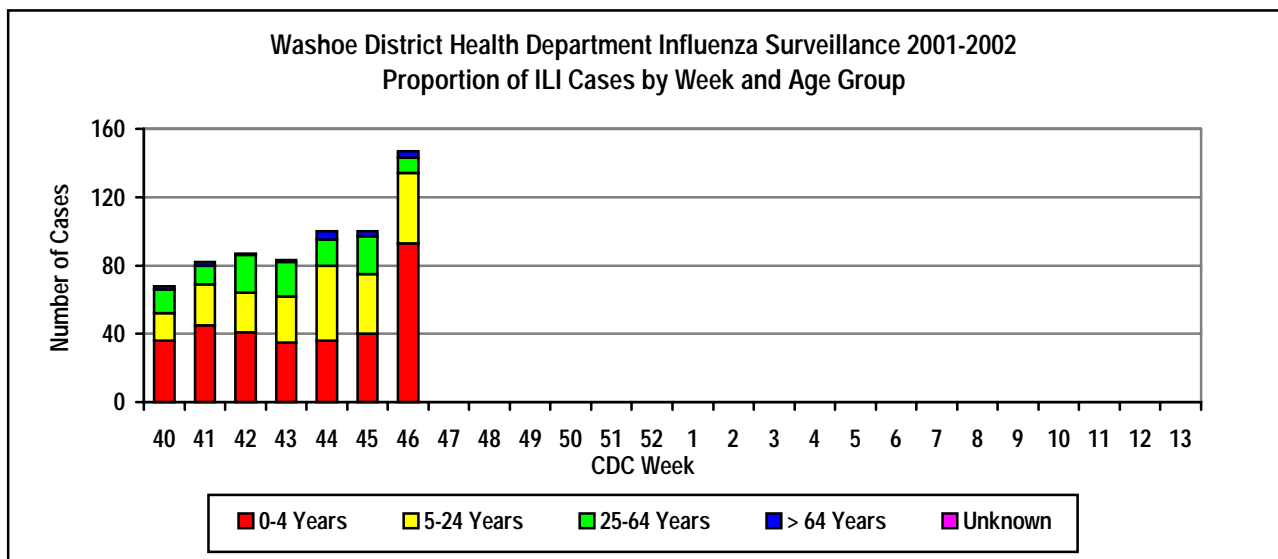
Health care providers are reminded that antiviral medications such as amantadine and rimantadine can reduce the severity and shorten the duration of influenza type A illness among healthy adults when administered within 48 hours of illness onset. To reduce the emergence of antiviral drug-resistant viruses, treatment of persons who have influenza-like-illness (ILI) should be discontinued as soon as clinically warranted, generally within 3-5 days of

treatment or within 24-48 hours after the disappearance of signs and symptoms.

To date, sentinel health care providers participating in the 2001-2002 Influenza Surveillance Program have submitted 17 specimens for influenza culture. Eight specimens are negative for influenza, one was positive for influenza type A and the remaining eight results are pending.

Influenza surveillance will continue through the last week of March 2002. For more information, please call (775) 328-2487. Influenza surveillance reports are produced weekly and can be accessed at the following website address:
www.co.washoe.nv.us/health.

The District Health Department continues to offer influenza vaccine for all persons age 65 years and older; and for persons under age 65 who have chronic illnesses such as heart disease, diabetes and asthma. The District Health Department will soon offer vaccine to all persons who wish to reduce their risk. For more information regarding influenza vaccine or upcoming influenza vaccine clinics, please call the Immunization Program at (775)-328-2477 or visit www.co.washoe.nv.us/health.



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