

Durham County Communicable Disease Update For Healthcare Providers

Durham County Health Department, Durham, NC



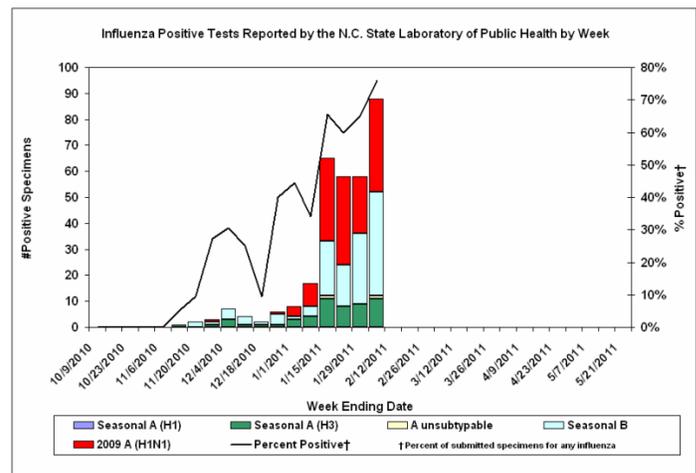
EveryWhere. EveryDay. EveryBody.

WELCOME to our Newsletter!

- The purpose of this quarterly newsletter is to provide health-care providers KEY information and updates regarding communicable disease issues in Durham County.
- For more information regarding communicable disease reporting and surveillance, please check our website at http://www.co.durham.nc.us/departments/phth/CDC_New_Information_1.html

Influenza

- There is continued wide-spread flu activity in NC.
- Therefore, flu vaccinations remain important. The Durham County Health Department provides FREE vaccines to anyone ≥ 6 months of age M/W/F.
- During the week ending on 1/29/11, the percentage of (+) flu specimens received by the State Lab (75%) was higher than during the 2009-2010 pandemic (~55%).
- In the US, 78% of reported viruses were flu A and 22% were flu B.
- These viruses are similar to the strains in the 2010-2011 vaccine, and remain



susceptible to oseltamivir and zanamivir.

- Vaccine efficacy ranges from 71-85% among adults.
- Rapid flu tests have sub-optimal test sensitivity and false negatives are common, especially when

influenza activity is high.

- Treatment should be based on clinical and epidemiological information, rather than test results.
- For more info, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/> professionals

Important Numbers

Main Number 560-7600

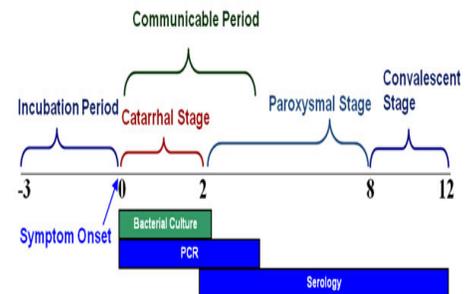
Communicable Disease Control 560-7600

Immunization Clinic 560-7608

Tuberculosis Clinic 560- 7633

Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

- Reported cases of pertussis have increased, especially among 10- 19 year olds and infants <6 months of age.
- Durham County has had several recent pertussis cases, including an outbreak at an elementary school.
- Whenever possible, a nasopharyngeal swab or aspirate should be obtained for culture and PCR.
- Treatment should be initiated as soon as possible during the first 2 weeks of illness, when ill persons are most infectious.
- Patients with suspected or confirmed pertussis should be asked not to return to school/work until after 5 days of treatment.



- Pertussis should be reported to the Health Department within 24 hours. Please contact 560-7600.

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