



County of Fresno
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
EDWARD L. MORENO, M.D., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR-HEALTH OFFICER

August 10, 2009

Superintendents and School Nursing Directors

With the emergence of the pandemic flu, and with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stating that children aged 5-24 years of age will be one of the high risk populations most impacted by pandemic flu this year in our community, it is important that the County maintain and enhance school based flu-like illness surveillance.

For the last several years, the County has conducted weekly flu-like illness surveillance with local schools. The Department of Public Health (Department) would like to continue this surveillance with a larger number of schools that represent every geographical area in the County.

Participation from large school districts should include one high school, one middle school, and two elementary schools for the weekly flu-like illness surveillance. Only one school is needed for participation from small school districts.

Every Wednesday, participating schools will need to submit to the Department the number of students enrolled on that day, and how many of those students were out with flu-like symptoms. The criteria for flu-like illness include a temperature of 100° with a cough or sore throat. The reporting form is attached and should be submitted via fax to (559) 445-3320 or sent via email to David Luchini at dluchini@co.fresno.ca.us.

Any school that experiences a 10% absentee level, regardless of whether or not they are participating in the surveillance program, should notify the Department immediately at (559) 445-3457. The Department will be monitoring large outbreaks of illness in schools.

Thank you for your participation. Please contact me should you have any questions or concerns at (559) 445-3457.

Sincerely,

David Luchini, Division Manager
Community Health

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Attachment