California Sentinel Provider Influenza Surveillance Program

Enrollment Form

Check one: MD ☐ DO ☐ NP ☐ PA ☐

Name: _____

Practice Name: _____

Practice Specialty: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

Zip Code: _____ State: CA

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Please supply an email address as it is the primary communication method with sentinel providers.

Email address: _____

Do you have access to diagnostic testing for influenza? Yes ☐ No ☐

Please complete the enrollment form and return to:

CDPH Communicable Disease Emergency Response Branch
Attn: Maria Nevarez
850 Marina Bay Parkway
Richmond, CA 94804
Fax: (510) 620-5896

IMM-890 (11/10)

California Sentinel Provider Influenza Surveillance Program

California clinicians are a critical component of the state and national surveillance network for influenza.

Enroll now to volunteer for this influenza season!

Questions?

Please contact Maria Nevarez
Phone: (510) 620-5848
Email: Maria.Nevarez@cdph.ca.gov

For more information visit our website:
www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/dcdc/Pages/CaliforniaSentinelProviderProgram.aspx

California Sentinel Provider Influenza Surveillance Program

Sponsored by: The California Department of Public Health, Communicable Disease Emergency Response Branch, Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDPH CDC

We need your help to track influenza in California!

The California Sentinel Provider Influenza Surveillance Program is a partnership between clinicians, local health departments (LHDs), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to conduct surveillance for *influenza-like illness (ILI)*. The program contributes valuable epidemiological and virologic information to state, national, and global influenza surveillance acitivities.

Why is surveillance for influenza important?

- Seasonal influenza is a significant cause of illness and death in California each year.
- Pandemic influenza is an unpredictable but inevitable threat.

- Routine surveillance for influenza improves our ability to monitor the circulation of influenza virus strains in the community.
- Surveillance aids with the detection of new subtypes and emerging strains of influenza viruses, an important element of preparedness for pandemic influenza.
- The data collected by Sentinel Providers assist CDPH and CDC with developing influenza prevention and control strategies and with selecting the virus strains to be included as components of the flu vaccine.

Who is eligible to be a Sentinel Provider?

Sentinel providers may be physicians, nurse practitioners, or physician assistants from any specialty.

What are the responsibilities of a Sentinel Provider?

Data Collection and Reporting

- Keep a record of the number of patient visits for influenza-like illness (categorized by age group) **and** the total number of patient visits for any reason.
- Report this influenza-like illness data weekly by fax or the internet.

Specimen Collection

- Collect nasal swabs or respiratory specimens from a subset of patients that meet the ILI case definition and submit them to the state laboratory for testing.
- All testing is performed at no cost to the provider. CDPH supplies the specimen collection materials and pays for shipping.

What feedback and materials do Sentinel Providers receive?

- **Individual test results** for specimens submitted to the state laboratory.
- **Rapid Antigen Test Kits** (Influenza A and B) are offered to qualified providers to facilitate on-site diagnostic testing.
- **Weekly updates** of state and national influenza activity.
- **An annual summary** of the ILI surveillance data collected and the Sentinel Provider program activities.
- **Choice of a medical book or a subscription to the New England Journal of Medicine** for providers who consistently report ILI data and submit at least five respiratory specimens during the influenza season.