



JOHNSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

dedicated to the prevention of disease and promotion of wellness for our community.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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JOHNSON COUNTY SEES INCREASE IN FLU CASES

(OLATHE, KS – **FEBRUARY 19, 2008**) The Johnson County Health Department (JCHD) has seen an increase in flu cases in the past week. Adults from 19 to 65 years are the hardest hit age range.

“We are seeing a dramatic increase in the number of cases in the county,” Nancy Tausz, Disease Containment Division Director, said.

Influenza (the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. Symptoms include fever, headache, tiredness, cough, sore throat and body aches. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death.

Every year in the United States, more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications and about 36,000 people die. Prevent getting sick with the flu by getting a flu shot every year and practicing good health habits, such as frequent hand washing and staying home when you are sick.

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