



JOHNSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

TO: Johnson County Medical Community

FROM: Johnson County Health Department Disease Containment Division

DATE: September 1, 2008

SUBJECT: 2008-2009 Influenza Season

Public health surveillance is the continuous, organized gathering, investigation, analysis and distribution of data about a health-related event. The knowledge gained is used to determine proper public health interventions to decrease morbidity and mortality rates and improve the overall health of a community.

Surveillance data allows public health to support case detection and interventions, estimate the impact of a health condition, describe the natural history of a disease, determine the communicability and distribution of an illness, generate hypotheses and stimulate research, evaluate prevention and control measures, and facilitate planning in case of an outbreak. Outbreak detection identifies increases in frequency of disease above the natural occurrence of the disease, and is a significant function of surveillance.

Currently the state of Kansas does not require influenza cases to be reported unless a death in a child under the age of eighteen occurs. In order to enhance Johnson County Health Departments, Disease Containment Division surveillance capabilities we are requesting your participation in the Influenza Data Collecting Activity for the upcoming 2008-2009 Influenza Season.

If your facility is interested in participating in our surveillance activity please distribute this information to the appropriate members of your facility, have them populate the spreadsheet with your data, and fax it to the Johnson County Health Department Disease Containment Division at: 913-826-1210 on a weekly basis.

If you have any questions, please contact: (913) 826-1303 Monday thru Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm.

Health at the Highest Level
6000 Lamar Suite 140 Mission, Kansas 66202 (913) 826-1200 Fax (913)826-1210