Six respiratory viruses are known to be currently circulating throughout Alabama

†This is not the 2019 novel coronavirus linked to Wuhan, China.

**Takeaway Points**

1. Statewide influenza-like illness (ILI) is holding steady at 5.58%. One in 20 individuals are still visiting their doctor for ILI.

2. Although coronavirus OC43, a known strain of coronavirus, has been found circulating in Alabama, no cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (linked to Wuhan, China) have been identified.

3. If sick, stay at home until fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications (e.g., Tylenol, Motrin, etc.) and wash your hands frequently with soap and water.

**Significant influenza activity has been detected in all eight districts in Alabama**

- Districts with significant influenza activity detected
- Districts with lab-confirmed case(s) within last 3 weeks
- Districts with no significant influenza activity reported

**Three non-pediatric and no pediatric deaths have been reported this season**

**Statewide ILI is above the threshold of concern**

**Twenty-nine influenza or ILI outbreak(s) were reported during the week ending January 18**

**Notes:**
* Information on outpatient visits to healthcare providers for ILI is collected through the U.S. Outpatient ILI Surveillance Network (ILINet). In Alabama, data are submitted using one of two methods: manual data entry by providers (ILINet) or electronic transmission by hospitals of syndromic surveillance data (ESSENCE).
** Geographic spread is determined based on district (not county) activity levels and virologic surveillance.
Key indicators that track flu activity declined slightly but remain high (4.7% ILI). Indicators that track severity (hospitalizations and deaths) are not high at this point in the season.

While the overall percent of specimens positive for influenza declined nationally, the percent positive for influenza A viruses increased, with some regions seeing specific increases in influenza A(H1N1)pdm09.

Antiviral medications are an important adjunct to flu vaccine in the control of influenza. Almost all (>99%) of the influenza viruses tested this season are susceptible to the four FDA-approved influenza antiviral medications recommended for use in the U.S. this season.

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO IF YOU THINK YOU SUSPECT A CASE OF 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

- On January 21, CDC confirmed the first case of 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in the United States in the state of Washington. The patient recently returned from Wuhan, China, where an outbreak of pneumonia caused by this novel coronavirus has been ongoing since December 2019.

- If you are a healthcare provider who suspects their patient may have this 2019-nCoV, you must take the following steps:
  
  Complete:
  - CDC Novel Coronavirus Consultation Form found on the Serious Infectious Disease Network web page (https://go.usa.gov/xdY3Z)

  Call both:
  - ADPH (1-800-338-8374) AND
  - CDC Emergency Operations Center (1-770-488-7100)

  Fax or e-mail completed form (Subject Line: “nCoV PUI Form”) to:
  - ADPH (1-334-206-3734 or CDFax@adph.state.al.us) AND
  - CDC (1-770-488-7107 or EOCReport@cdc.gov)

NEWS FROM THE BUREAU OF CLINICAL LABORATORIES (BCL)

- To ensure we know what is actively circulating in Alabama, we need your help by submitting respiratory specimens for testing. If you are a healthcare provider and need to request flu kits:
  - Email FluTestKit@adph.state.al.us
  - Enter “flu test kit” in subject line. Explain what you need (i.e., entire flu test kit, individual items such as cooler, ice packs, Dacron swabs, viral/universal transport media, etc.).