

Now You Can Help With

Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) 2015-2016 Season

In Only a Few Minutes per Week!

Who is an ILINet provider?

- ✓ An ILINet provider conducts surveillance for influenza-like illness (ILI) in collaboration with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- ✓ Data reported by ILINet providers, in combination with other influenza surveillance data, provides a state and nationwide picture of influenza virus and ILI activity.
- ✓ Nationally, approximately 2,900 outpatient health care providers are participants in this program.
- ✓ Iowa ILINet program consists of 15 providers in various specialties.

Who can be an ILINet Provider?

Providers (physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses) of any specialty (e.g., family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, infectious disease) in any type of practice (e.g., private practice, public health clinic, urgent care center, emergency room, university student health center) are eligible to be ILINet providers.

What data do ILINet providers collect?

ILINet providers report the total number of patient visits each week and the number of patient visits for ILI by age group (0-4 years, 5-24 years, 25-49 years, 50-64 years, ≥ 65 years). These data are transmitted once a week via the Internet to a central data repository at CDC.

Why volunteer to become an ILINet provider?

- ✓ The ILINet program is the primary source of outpatient influenza surveillance in Iowa and nationally
- ✓ Data collected and specimens submitted from ILINet providers are critical for monitoring the impact of influenza in Iowa and, in combination with other influenza surveillance data, can be used to guide prevention and control activities, vaccine strain selection, and patient care.
- ✓ ILINet providers receive feedback on the data submitted, summaries of regional and national influenza data, and free subscriptions to CDC's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* and *Emerging Infectious Diseases* journal.
- ✓ The most important consideration is that the data provided are critical for protecting the public's health.

To participate in this program, please contact Julie Coughlin at
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