



**Nov. 29, 2010**

## **HEALTH ADVISORY**

### **Health-Care Providers Asked To Include Hospitalization Data When Reporting Laboratory Confirmed Influenza Cases**

The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) is requesting that all patients who are hospitalized with a laboratory confirmation of influenza be reported to the Division of Disease Control's Influenza Program. Laboratory confirmed influenza includes positive rapid, DFA, IFA, culture and molecular tests. While all laboratory identified influenza is reportable to the NDDoH, hospitalization status is often not completed. Influenza hospitalization data is part of a new surveillance network coordinated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Reports can be sent a variety of ways:

- **Mail:** Report cards are available upon request from NDDOH Division of Disease Control.
- **Online:** [www.ndhealth.gov/Disease/Disease%20Reporting/Report.htm](http://www.ndhealth.gov/Disease/Disease%20Reporting/Report.htm)
- **Phone:** Call 800.472.2180 and ask to report a condition.
- **Fax:** Reportable information can be sent via fax to 701.328.2499.

Please do not hesitate to contact the North Dakota Department of Health at 701.328.2378 or toll free at 800.472.2180 if you have any questions or concerns. Your assistance with the surveillance program is greatly appreciated.

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*Categories of Health Alert messages:*

- *Health Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.*
- *Health Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.*
- *Health Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.*
- *Health Information provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.*

*This message is being sent to local public health units, clinics, hospitals, physicians, tribal health, North Dakota Nurses Association, North Dakota Long Term Care Association, North Dakota Healthcare Association, North Dakota Medical Association, and hospital public information officers.*