

Influenza Surveillance Activities – RVSP/IISP

RVSP/IISP Overview

From 2009–2013, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) provided funding for twelve states or large local health departments to participate in the Influenza Incidence Surveillance Project (IISP). In 2011, the Texas Department of State Health Services was selected to participate in the project after a competitive application process. The project monitored the age-specific incidence of medically-attended ILI throughout the influenza season through voluntary reporting of influenza-like illness and specimen submission from selected healthcare providers.

Provider participation in IISP in Texas was available for up to eight healthcare providers in any of the following settings: family practice, pediatricians, internal medicine, student health, infectious disease, community clinics or urgent care. The providers had to have a moderate patient volume of 100-150 patient visits per week. The combined patient population of all participating providers should have represented all age groups. Providers committed to participate in the surveillance project for a full year.

Providers that participated in IISP sent weekly reports directly to the Influenza Surveillance Team at DSHS Central Office in Austin. Reports were due by noon on Tuesday. The reports included aggregate counts of total patients seen and the number of patients seen with ILI. Aggregate counts were reported in eight age group categories that were collapsible to ILINet age groups. ILI was defined differently for IISP compared to ILINet. For patients ≥ 2 years of age, ILI was defined as onset of fever AND cough AND/OR sore throat within 7 days of presenting to the clinic. In patients < 2 years of age, ILI was defined as onset of fever AND cough, sore throat, rhinorrhea, or nasal congestion within 7 days of presenting to the clinic.

In addition to aggregate reporting, IISP providers collected nasopharyngeal specimens on the first ten patients they saw each week with ILI. The specimens, along with patient demographic and clinical data, were submitted to DSHS. The specimens were tested for influenza, respiratory syncytial virus, adenovirus, parainfluenza viruses 1-3, human metapneumovirus and rhinovirus.

Data collected from this surveillance project was used to describe the incidence and presentation of influenza and other viruses associated with acute respiratory infections in Texas. Providers that participated in IISP received regular reports summarizing the data from the provider's clinic and comparing those data to the combined data from all the Texas IISP providers.

From 2013-2014, Texas participated in the IISP with an "Enhanced ILINet" program. The program was similar to the IISP program from 2011-2013, except that providers reported ILI data directly to ILINet instead of reporting the data to DSHS. To align with the data collection method for ILINet, the total patients seen each week was no longer reported by age group.

From 2014-2016, Texas continued to conduct an IISP-like program called the Respiratory Virus Surveillance Project (RVSP). The project was very similar to the IISP with an "Enhanced ILINet" program, except that age specific incidence of medically attended ILI was not calculated

for the 2014-2015 RVSP season. The Respiratory Virus Surveillance Project (RVSP) was discontinued at the conclusion of the 2015-2016 RVSP season.

An example of the RVSP aggregate count reporting tool is included below:

| | |
|--|---|
| To: _____ |  |
| Fax Number: _____ | |
| Date: _____ / _____ / _____ | Pages, including Cover Sheet: <u> 1 </u> |
| Re: <u> Influenza-like Illness Weekly Report </u> | |

**RVSP/IISP Project: October 04, 2015-August 27, 2016
Weekly ILI Report**

Clinic Name: _____

Report for the 7-day period ending on Saturday: ____/____/____

Comments: _____

| Number of Patients Seen with ILI (Sunday through Saturday) | | | | | |
|--|-----|------|-------|-------|-----|
| Age (yrs) | 0-4 | 5-24 | 25-49 | 50-64 | ≥65 |
| # of patients with ILI | | | | | |

| Total Patient Visits for Any Reason (Sunday through Saturday) | |
|---|--|
| # of patients seen | |

Influenza-like illness (ILI) definition:

Children < 2 years old: Within 7 days of presenting to the clinic, onset of fever AND cough, sore throat, rhinorrhea, or nasal congestion

Patients ≥ 2 years old: Within 7 days of presenting to the clinic, onset of fever AND cough AND/OR sore throat

Please report data directly to ILINet, or email or fax to your local health department, by **noon each Tuesday**. Please send a report even if no patients with ILI are seen. Indicate office closures or vacations in the comments line. Thank you!

