

**JOINT LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**



DHHS Updates

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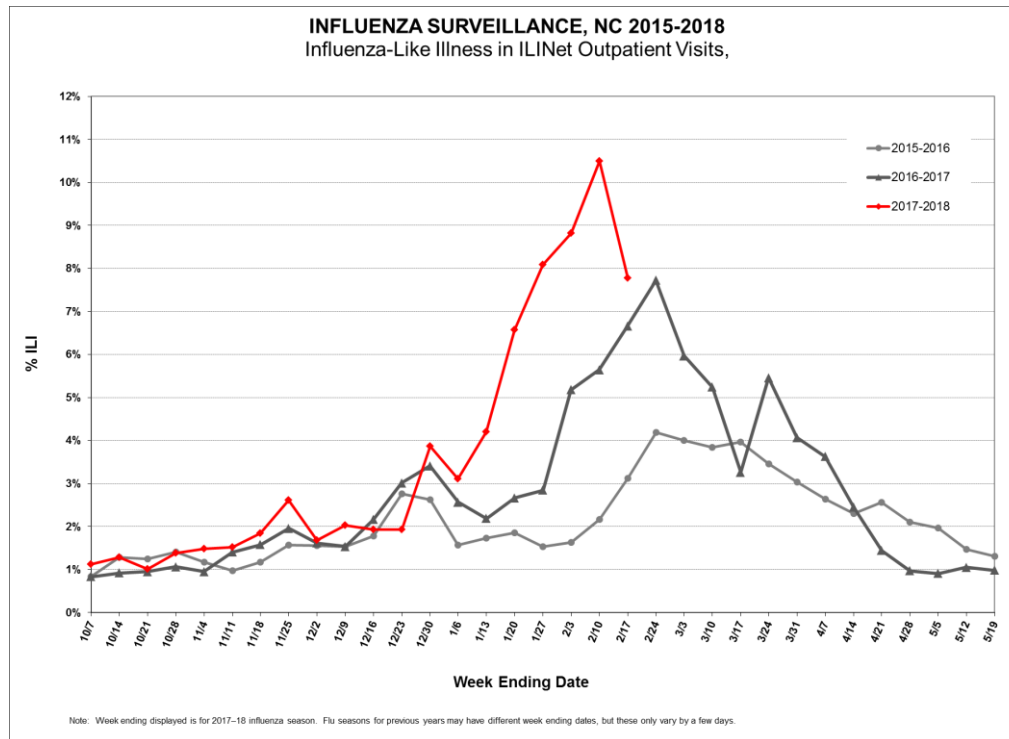
Cardinal Innovations Update

At the end of January 2018:

- DHHS transitioned leadership and governance to new board**
- Corrective Action Plan adopted by board**
- Committed \$3.8 Million from administrative allocation and other existing resources to fund community investment activities this fiscal year**
 - High impact initiatives that will positively affect members and their communities over the next 12 months**
 - Capital, equipment and/or programmatic needs**
 - Transparent process**
 - Board of Directors engagement in recommendations**
 - Final oversight and approval by DHHS**
- Cardinal retained outside counsel**
- Court granted DHHS' motion for Preliminary Injunction against former Cardinal Board Members & Leadership**

2017–18 NC Influenza Season: Update

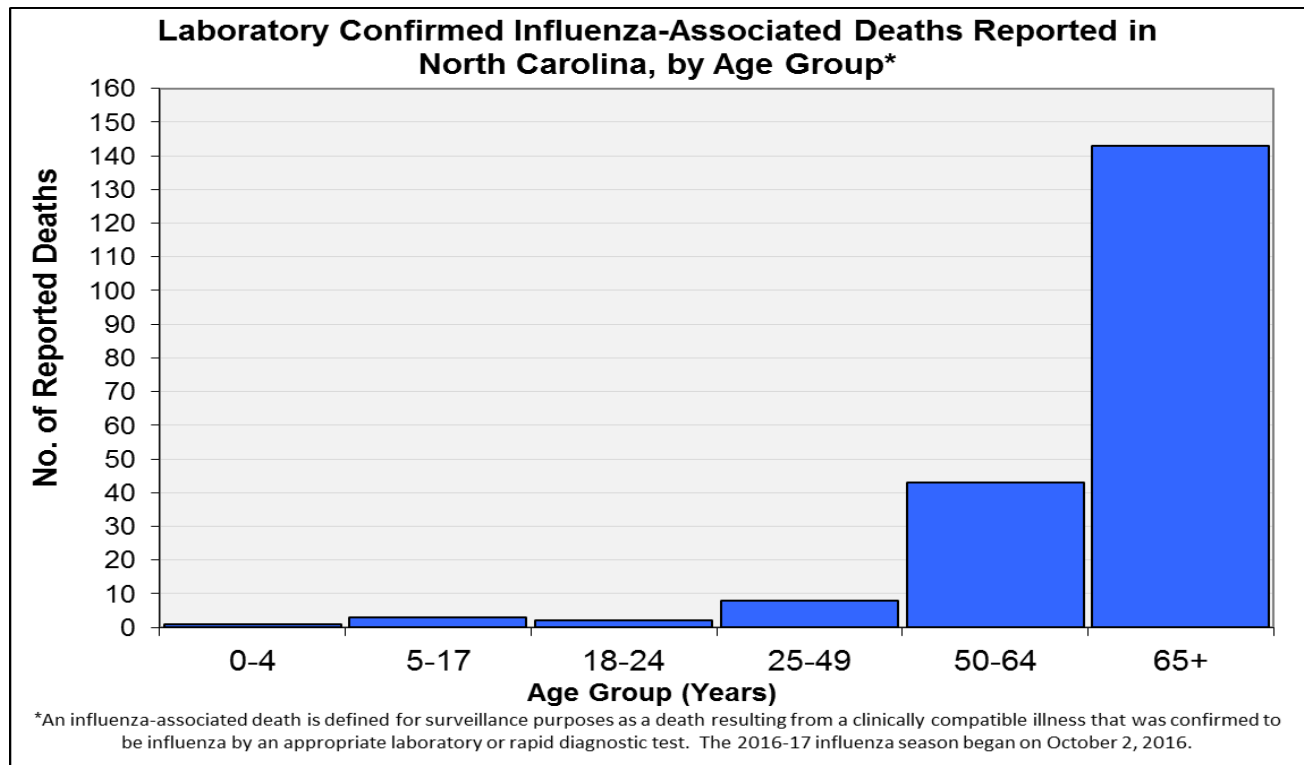
- Activity peaked during week ending February 10



- Higher peak than recent seasons
- Influenza A (H3N2) viruses predominating

SOURCE: www.flu.nc.gov

NC Influenza-Associated Deaths: 2017–18 Season



- Most deaths in persons ≥ 65 years of age
- Reporting lags behind other measures of flu activity
- Total deaths 200

SOURCE: www.flu.nc.gov

Flu Vaccine Effectiveness: Interim Estimates

- Overall effectiveness at 36%
 - Lower against H3N2, higher against other flu viruses
 - 59% effective for children 6 months–8 years
 - Similar to 2016-17 flu season (39% effective)
- Reduced risk of getting sick and having to go to the doctor for flu by about one-third
 - Best available way to prevent influenza illness and complications
 - Underscores need for better vaccines

Flu Messages

- **Not too late to get vaccinated**
 - High levels of flu expected for coming weeks
 - Flu B tends to increase in spring
- **If you think you have the flu, call your doctor**
 - Prescription antiviral drugs are important second line of defense
 - Especially important for those at high risk for complications
- **Remember common sense prevention actions**
 - Hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette
 - Stay home from school/work when sick