

Ulster County H1N1 Update - Released: 16 –April 10

**Ulster County Department of Health
Seasonal and H1N1 Influenza Advisory
Update 4/16/10**

FINAL H1N1 UPDATE: While UCDOH will still be promoting healthy habits and H1N1 vaccination, this will be our final email update. UCDOH staff will continue to monitor influenza related data on county, national, and global levels, and, should the need arise, we will be committed to resuming our distribution of H1N1 updates to keep our partners informed. On behalf of UCDOH, we would like to thank you for your assistance in disseminating H1N1 prevention and vaccination information to your agencies, clients, and, communities. If you have any questions or would like to request influenza prevention education materials, please contact us at 334-5538.

Influenza Monitoring:

***Ulster County Influenza Epidemiology Summary:** Ulster County Hospital Emergency Departments reported that the number of patients seen with influenza like illness has remained stable, as compared to the weeks ending 3/20/10 and 3/27/10. (Figure 1) School absenteeism rates have decreased slightly for the week ending 4/10/10. Please note: Absenteeism data is not available for reporting week 13 (4/03/10), due to spring break schedules.

*The most recent Ulster County H1N1 data is available for the week ending April 10, 2010.

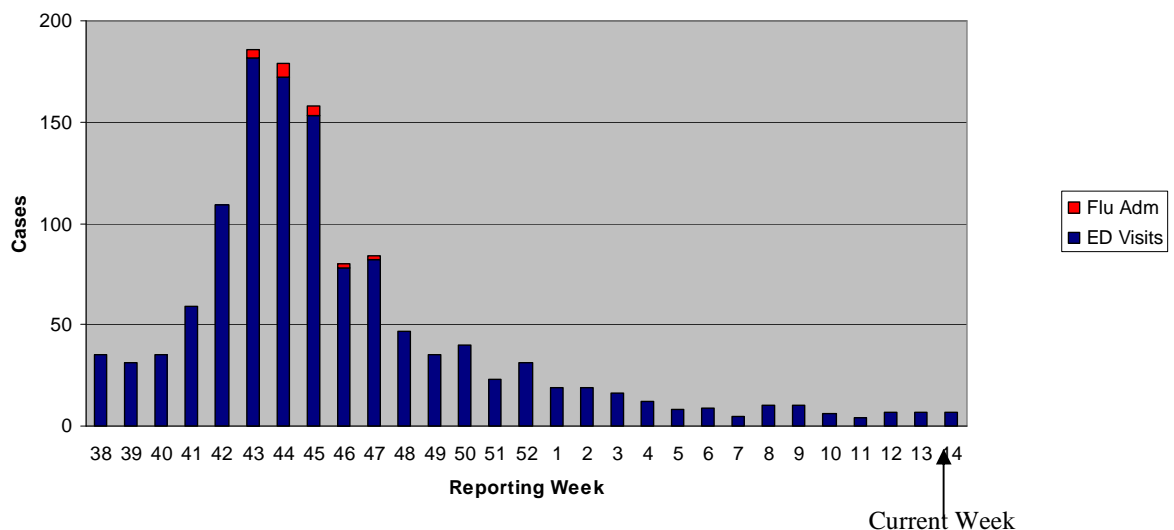


Figure 1: H1N1 Flu in Ulster County EDs: Sept. 26, 2009 (Reporting Wk 38) –April 10, 2010 (Reporting Wk 14)

Status of Prevention Efforts:

Flu Vaccination Information:

Executive Order 29 Set to Expire April 17, 2010: The NYSDOH Executive Order 29, which declared a NYS disaster emergency and authorized the modification of laws and regulations in response to the novel 2009 H1N1 influenza outbreak, will expire on April 17, 2010. Accordingly, starting on April 18, 2010, all modifications and suspensions of laws and regulations under the Executive Order will no longer be in effect, and those affected must comply with existing NYS law. More information about the expiration of Executive Order 29 can be found on the NYSDOH's Health Alert Network (HAN).

H1N1 Influenza Vaccine: UCDOH wrapped up their final H1N1 vaccination clinics on March 26, 2010. In total, UCDOH held seventeen successful public vaccination clinics between the months of December and March. **If you would still like to receive the vaccine, contact your health care provider or visit <http://www.flucliniclocator.org> to find out about other H1N1 flu vaccination clinics scheduled near you.**

Seasonal Influenza Vaccine: The Ulster County Department of Health (UCDOH) is no longer offering seasonal flu vaccine for the 2009-2010 season. The influenza schedule for the 2010-2011 season is typically posted in the late fall when vaccine becomes available. Please check UCDOH's website and the flu hotline closer to that time for more information.

UCDOH Website: www.UlsterCountyNY.gov/health
UCDOH Flu Hotline: 845-340-3093