



STAFF REPORT

Report To: Board of Health

Meeting Date: December 15, 2022

Staff Contact: Nicki Aaker, Director Health and Human Services

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action regarding the proposed acceptance of a report of the Carson City Health Officer. (Nicki Aaker, naaker@carson.org)

Staff Summary: This item is to provide an update on: (1) the Health Officer's activities; (2) clinical oversight and policy input; (3) training and education; and (4) general information for the Carson City Board of Health. Input is requested from the Board of Health regarding the Health Officer's report concerning activities the Health Officer is engaged in both internally and externally for the Carson City Department of Health and Human Services.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion

Time Requested: 15 minutes

Proposed Motion

I move to accept the report as presented.

Board's Strategic Goal

Quality of Life

Previous Action

N/A

Background/Issues & Analysis

A Health Officer's report is presented at each Board of Health meeting.

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

N/A

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted?

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Do not accept the report and/or provide alternative direction.

Attachments:

[Health Officer Report.pdf](#)

[Influenza Report_REGIONAL_MMWR_47_2022_FINAL.pdf](#)

Board Action Taken:

Motion: _____

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



Carson City Health Officer Report

Health Officer Activities: (since 15Aug2022)

- Behavioral Health Task Force (BHTF) meetings: 8/15, 9/21, 10/19, 11/16
- CCHHS Division Managers' meetings: 8/31, 9/19, 10/3, 10/17, 11/21
- Presented CCHHS quarterly report to Nevada State Board of Health: 9/2
- Attended Quill Water Treatment Plant tour and viewed demonstrations regarding Carson City watershed: 9/10
- Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) meetings: 9/12, 11/9
- Tour of Ron Wood Family Resource Center and review of services provided: September
- Attended Ron Wood Family Resource Center community awareness & fundraiser event at Greenhouse Garden Center: 9/16
- Quad-County Coalition meeting: 9/20
- Reviewed all Quad-County PHP emails, attachments and numerous national and state support materials.
- Participated in Flu Vaccine Point of Dispensing (POD) exercise at Fuji park: 10/8; One hundred forty-eight (148) vaccines were administered to community members consisting of kids, adults and seniors.
- Attended the Nevada Health Officers' meeting: 10/10
- Met with Access to HealthCare representative regarding provision of health services to Carson City residents: 10/25
- Met with CCHHS Director: 10/26
- Set agenda and Chaired Sexual Assault Response Team (SART): 10/27
No specific trends noted, though number of cases are now paralleling those of pre-Covid pandemic levels.
- Average of 8 hours per month reviewing CCHHS emails, CDC Covid Weekly Tracker and Health Alert Network (HAN), Trust for America's Health, Public Health Communication Collaborative, Nevada Department of Public & Behavioral Health (DPBH) emails and technical bulletins, and Nevada Hospital association weekly reports.

Clinical Oversight and Policy Input

- Finalized the Monkey Pox Virus (MPV) vaccine and clinic policy.
- Updated the Influenza vaccine clinic standing orders for the 2022-2023 season.

Carson City Health & Human Services

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Training and Education:

- Virtual presentation by Nevada Dept. of Public & Behavioral Health on Candida auris infections in Nevada: August
- Virtual CDC COCA presentation on the latest Covid vaccine - Novavax: August
- CDC STLT Covid updates: 9/19, 10/17
- Nevada Public Health Association Annual Conference in Las Vegas: 9/12 - 9/14
- Nevada Community Health Worker Association CHW 1/2-day virtual training: 9/23
- University of Utah “Burns: Pre-Hospital Care” virtual continuing medical education (CME): 10/12

General Information for the Carson City Board of Health:

OCT. 15, 2022; Los Angeles Times

Adults 65 and older are the only age group in the country that saw an [uptick in the poverty rate](#) last year, from 9.5% in 2020 to 10.7% in 2021, according to the U.S. Census Bureau’s Supplemental Poverty Measure, which factors in programs aimed at helping low-income families and individuals who are not included in the official poverty rate.



Increased Respiratory Virus Activity, Especially Among Children, Early in the 2022-2023 Fall and Winter

Summary

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is issuing this Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory about early, elevated respiratory disease incidence caused by multiple viruses occurring especially among children and placing strain on healthcare systems. Co-circulation of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), influenza viruses, SARS-CoV-2, and others could place stress on healthcare systems this fall and winter. This early increase in disease incidence highlights the importance of optimizing respiratory virus prevention and treatment measures, including prompt vaccination and antiviral treatment.

Flu vaccination can be lifesaving in children.

- A [2022 study](#), “Vaccine Effectiveness Against Life-Threatening Influenza Illness in US Children” showed that flu vaccination reduced children’s risk of severe life-threatening influenza by 75%.
- A [2020 study](#), “Vaccine Effectiveness Against Pediatric Influenza Hospitalizations and Emergency Visits” found that during the 2018-2019 flu season, flu vaccination reduced flu-related hospitalization by 41% and flu-related emergency department visits by half among children (aged 6 months to 17 years old).
- A 2017 [study](#), “CDC Study Finds Flu Vaccine Saves Children’s Lives” was the first of its kind to show flu vaccination can significantly reduce children’s risk of dying from flu.



Mask  up.
Back  up.
Wash  up.
Vax  up!

It's not over yet.
Step up to stop COVID.

SNHD
Southern Nevada Health District
www.snhd.info/covid

SNHD – Southern Nevada Health District, Las Vegas, NV



SICK WITH FLU? KNOW WHAT TO DO!

Influenza (or flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by flu viruses. Most people with flu have mild illness and do not need medical care or antiviral drugs. If you get flu symptoms, in most cases, you should stay home and avoid contact with others except to get medical care.

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS OF FLU

Flu viruses can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The flu is different from a cold. The flu usually comes on suddenly.

People who have flu often feel some or all of these symptoms: Fever* or feeling feverish/chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, fatigue (tiredness). Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea. This is more common in children.

* It's important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever.

TAKE ANTIVIRAL DRUGS IF YOUR DOCTOR PRESCRIBES THEM!

Antiviral drugs can be used to treat flu illness. Antiviral drugs can make illness milder and shorten the time you are sick. They also can prevent serious flu complications.

CDC recommends that antiviral drugs be used early to treat people who are very sick with the flu and people who get flu symptoms who are at high risk of serious flu complications, either because of their age or because they have a high risk medical condition.

STAY HOME WHEN SICK

When you are sick, limit contact with others as much as possible. Remember to cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and throw tissues in the trash after you use them. Stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities.

*Your fever should be gone for 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing medicine before resuming normal activities.

www.cdc.gov/flu/takingcare.htm #FIGHT FLU 

NHA Report Week Nov 20 - Nov 26, 2022

The hospital occupancy rates for the State of Nevada remain stable at 71% and 74% for the ICU. The average emergency department (ED) utilization was 4,630 patient visits, with 14% complaining of COVID-19-related symptoms.

The occupancy rates of pediatric designated hospital beds have stabilized, but pediatric occupancy rates are at 103% statewide, and PICU is at 100% occupancy. Washoe County occupancy rates have an upward-leaning trendline as well as a significant decrease in staffed beds as Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center has ceased pediatric and NICU services.

Hospitals' plans to mitigate overcrowding continue to work. The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) for the entire northern part of the state is being stretched to its limits. Surge plans have been activated, and Nevada's HCQC (hospital regulators) are being asked for accommodations as the NICU is currently operating at 110% capacity.

Flu-related hospitalizations are continuing to increase throughout Nevada, up to 92 hospitalized patients from 40 last week. Type-A flu currently accounts for 82% of Influenza hospitalizations.

Risk Table Highlights: This week, several changes have been made to the risk table. **Supplies in the north have been elevated to a warning level** as the Nevada Hospital Association (NHA) is aware of several shortages and backorders on items. **Staffing has been increased to an alert level** as pediatric-trained nurses are difficult to hire, and the demand is increasing. Additionally, some **pediatric nurses** are reportedly leaving their current positions to take lucrative traveling nurse positions.

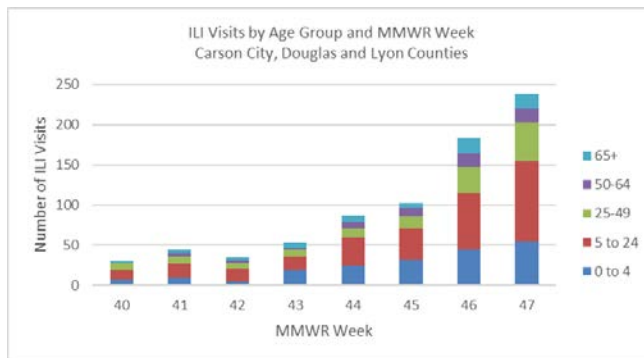
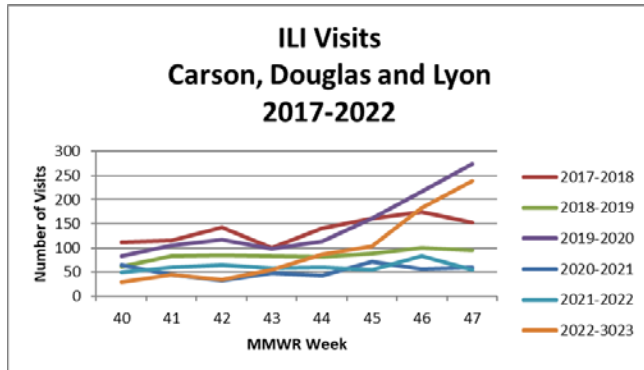
Other Infectious Diseases

- Nevada reportedly experienced a Monkeypox-related death last week.
- Hospitals are reporting that the pediatric wards are being filled with children younger than 6 years old. Additionally, some of these patients have COVID or other respiratory complaints that require isolation, compounding the shortages of available pediatric beds.

Health Officer's Comment on NHA Report – No other information is available concerning the Monkeypox-related death.

Influenza Activity

2022-2023 Season

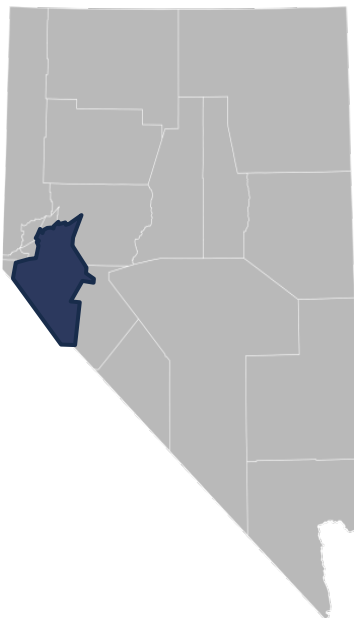


Data collected in ESSENCE

ESSENCE
Detection Level
Red
Number of actual visits was less than expected, based on past years.

2019-2022
ILI Visit
Age Group Breakdown

0-4	26%
5-24	39%
25-49	18%
50-64	8%
65+	9%



Influenza Activity | 1

Current Week 47 (ending 11/26/22)

- 238 Influenza-like-illness (ILI) events reported among jurisdiction's emergency department visits: Increase from last year
- 5 hospitalizations reported

Current Season Summary (10/02/21 - 11/26/22)

- 774 Influenza-like-illness (ILI) events reported among jurisdiction's emergency department visits: Decrease from last year
- 17 reported hospitalizations within the jurisdiction

Last Season Summary (Week 40-47)

- 483 Influenza-like-illness (ILI) events reported among jurisdiction's emergency department visits
- 0 reported hospitalizations within the jurisdiction

ILI is defined as fever (temperature of 100°F [37.8°C] or greater) and a cough and/or a sore throat