



Tarrant County Public Health
Division of Epidemiology and Health Information

Tarrant County Public Health Reporting Protocol

I. Passive Surveillance

- a. Complete and submit the *Influenza Surveillance Enrollment Form*.
- b. Send completed *Influenza Surveillance Weekly Report Form* via fax or e-mail by 3:00p.m. Monday each week, year-round.
 - i. Secure Fax #: (817) 850-2366
 - ii. E-mail: flu@tarrantcounty.com

II. Active Surveillance (for providers not participating in regular specimen submissions)

- a. Complete and submit the *Influenza Surveillance Enrollment Form*.
- b. Collect samples from different patients throughout the CDC-specified influenza season (October – May) using the flu kit provided by Tarrant County Public Health Department (or your own viral transport media).
 - i. Two during the beginning of the influenza season (Oct.-Dec.)
 - ii. Two during the peak of the influenza season (Jan.-Feb.)
 - iii. Two during the wane of the influenza season (Mar.-May)
 - iv. If possible, collect specimens from patients with a **rapid test positive** result as well as from patients with a **rapid test negative** result with a strong suspicion of influenza.
- c. Complete the *Influenza Surveillance Specimen Submission Form*.
- d. Contact the Influenza Surveillance Specialist to see if a courier service is available. If not deliver specimen to North Texas Regional Laboratory at:
1101 South Main Street, Suite 1700
Fort Worth, TX 76104

III. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness

- a. If patient presents with ILI or influenza **AND** has recent travel history to a country affected by novel influenza (such as avian influenza in Asia, Africa, the Pacific, Eastern Europe, and the Near East) contact the Influenza Surveillance Specialist with Tarrant County Public Health **AND** collect a sample from the patient using the flu kit provided by Tarrant County Public Health Department (or your own viral transport media).