Influenza Report - For the week ending 12/12/2015

Summary: As of 12/12/2015, 34 cases of confirmed influenza were reported to the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) since 10/1/2015, with six (18%) cases requiring hospitalization. One influenza-associated death has been reported. Emergency department visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) comprised 0.71% of all ED visits this week.

Influenza activity in Boston remains sporadic. BPHC reminds everyone that the influenza vaccine remains the best available tool for preventing illness.

Cases of influenza diagnosed in Boston and confirmed by any laboratory test must be reported to BPHC by calling (617) 534-5611 or faxing reports to (617) 534-5905.
Influenza-like illness (ILI) is defined as "flu" OR "fever and a cough or sore throat" in the ED chief complaint as captured by the BPHC Syndromic Surveillance System.

*Flu Near You (FNY) compiles weekly data of ILI activity in the United States. The data come from short, weekly internet-based surveys completed by voluntary participants who indicate whether they are healthy or have experienced any of a short list of symptoms.

The public may participate by enrolling in FNY at: [https://flunearyou.org/](https://flunearyou.org/)
Geographic Distribution

Rate of Confirmed Influenza Cases by Neighborhood per 100,000 Population
October 1, 2015 - December 12, 2015

Rate of ILI Syndrome ED Visits by Neighborhood per 100,000 Population
October 1, 2015 - December 12, 2015

Neighborhood Legend

A/B = Allston/Brighton
BB = Back Bay
CH = Charlestown
EB = East Boston
FW = Fenway
HP = Hyde Park
JP = Jamaica Plain
MT = Mattapan
ND = North Dorchester
RS = Roslindale
RX = Roxbury
SB = South Boston
SD = South Dorchester
SE = South End
WR = West Roxbury