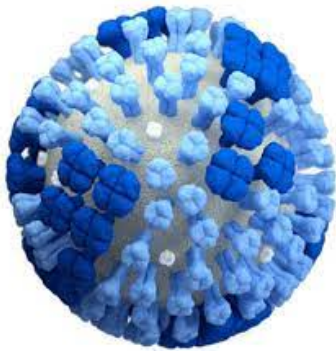


Written by Kathy

Friday, 30 December 2022 22:41 - Last Updated Saturday, 31 December 2022 03:14



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CLEVELAND, Ohio- The Cleveland Department of Public Health (CDPH) for the city of Cleveland has confirmed its first influenza-associated pediatric death for the 2022-23 flu season. The 19-month-old child was hospitalized at the time of her death.

This is Cuyahoga County's second pediatric flu-associated death of the season following the death of a 13-year-old boy in November.

"The news of any death in our community is devastating," said CDPH Assistant Director Brian Kimball. "We recognize the poignancy of the loss of a child, especially from flu, and we urge everyone six months and older to get vaccinated against the flu now, if you have yet to do so

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this season."

For those concerned with how well this year's flu vaccine matches up against the strains of flu virus currently circulating, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that the available vaccines appear to be a good match and provide superb protection against serious illness and hospitalization from the flu.

During this period of high activity for COVID-19, flu, and RSV, further infection spread can be limited by adhering to preventive measures such as getting vaccinated and boosted, when eligible, and by taking these precautions:

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid close contact with those who are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth after touching objects – this is how germs are spread.
- Practice good habits like disinfecting surfaces, getting plenty of sleep, and managing stress.

CDPH offers flu and COVID-19 vaccines at two City of Cleveland health centers:

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- J. Glen Smith Health Center, 11100 St. Clair Ave – ages 12 and up, Wednesdays & Thursdays – 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; 6 months - 11 years old Thursdays only.
- McCafferty Health Center, 4242 Lorain Ave – ages 12 and up, Mondays & Wednesdays – 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; 6 months - 11 years old Mondays only.

Walk-ins are welcome. Optional pre-registration available for COVID-19 vaccination at 216-664-2222 or gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov. Those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

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We interviewed former president Barack Obama one-on-one when he was campaigning for president. As t

o the Obama interview,

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