



Miami-Dade County Health Department Office of Epidemiology and Disease Control Influenza/Respiratory Illness Surveillance Report Week 40: 10/01 – 10/07/2006

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Report Summary

The Week 40 Influenza/Respiratory Illness Surveillance Report includes information from the following data sources:

1. 911 Surveillance
2. Hospital Emergency Department Surveillance
3. Outbreak Reports

Each reporting week starts on Sunday and ends on Saturday.

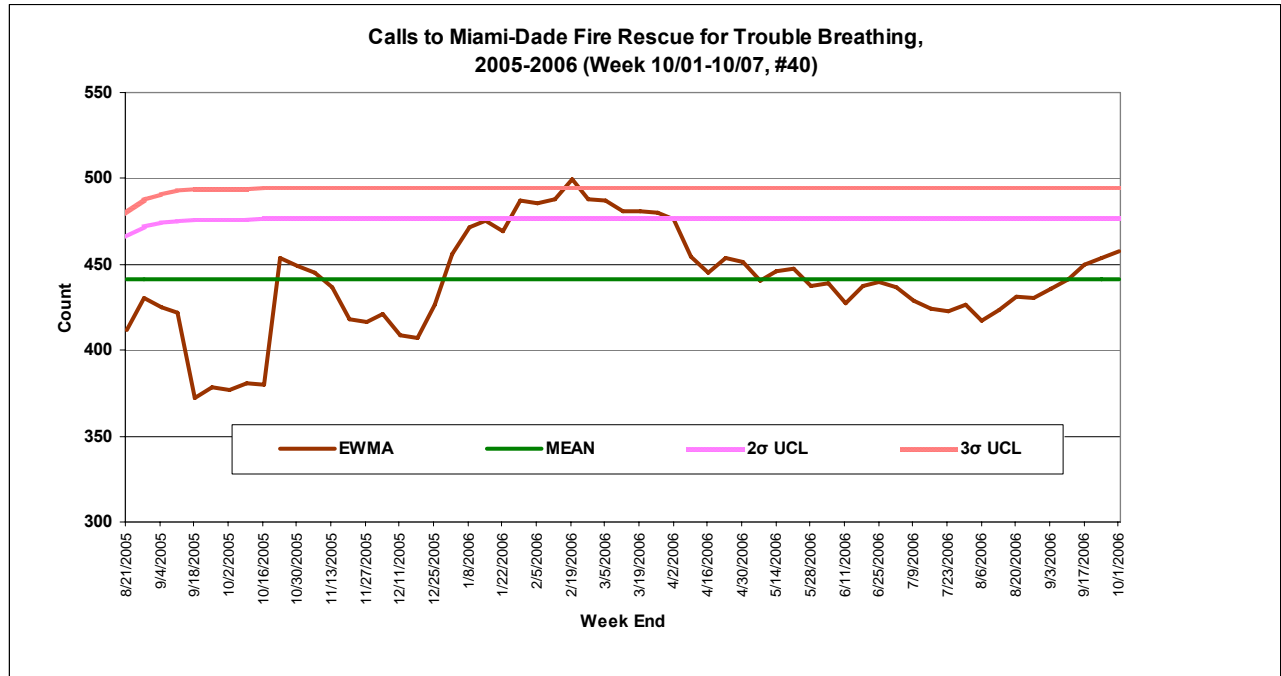
No increases in influenza-like/respiratory illness were observed during the week ending October 7, 2006. Likewise, no influenza-like/respiratory illness outbreaks were reported.

Methods

An exponentially weighted moving average (EWMA) is calculated based on historical data from 2005 - 2006. EWMA is used to determine whether a process is in a state of statistical control and to detect shifts in the process average. The Upper Control Limits (UCL) are at 2 and 3 standard deviations above the mean. Increased activity is determined based on a threshold that is 2 standard deviations above the historical mean.

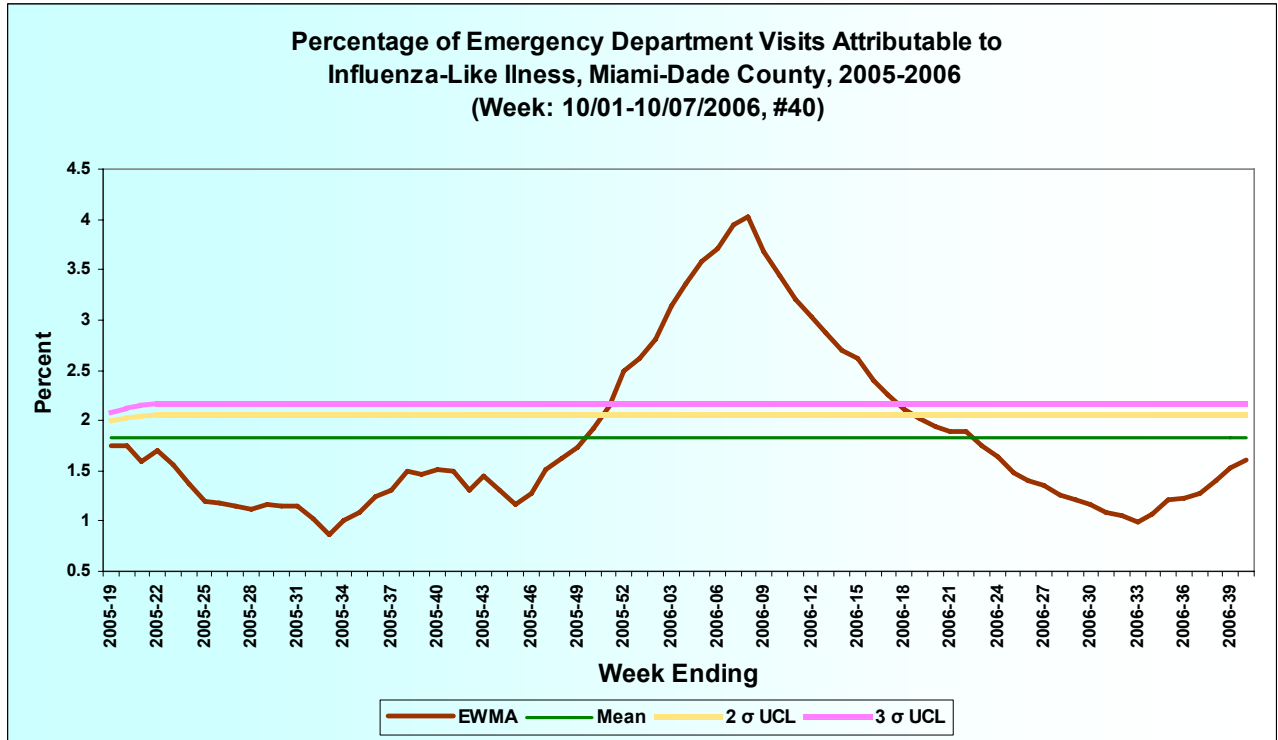
911 Surveillance

On a daily basis, the Office of Epidemiology and Disease Control monitors 911 medical calls placed to Miami-Dade Fire Rescue (MDFR). All medical calls are placed into categories by MDFR staff. The "trouble breathing" category is used to monitor respiratory illness.



Hospital Emergency Department Surveillance

On a daily basis, selected Miami-Dade County hospitals electronically transmit hospital emergency department data to the Miami-Dade County Health Department. This data is then categorized into 10 distinct syndromes. The influenza-like illness (ILI) syndrome consists of fever with either cough or sore throat. It can also include a chief complaint of “flu”.



During Week 40, 1.8% of all Emergency Department visits were for Influenza-Like Illness. While ILI activity has increased slightly in recent weeks, it is still currently at low levels.

Outbreak Reports

No influenza-like/respiratory illness outbreaks were reported for the week ending October 7, 2006
(Week 40)