Influenza Update (CDC)

- Nationally, influenza activity continues to decline. CDC reported that 16.8% of the 8,144 US surveillance specimens tested were positive for influenza virus.
- There was a decline to 22 states that reported widespread influenza activity. Wisconsin reported regional activity.
- According to CDC, the most affected group with influenza-related hospitalizations were those >65 years old. Among hospitalizations (85.8%) were associated with influenza A.

Wisconsin Update

- Wisconsin labs reported that 26.2% of specimens tested positive for influenza virus by PCR.
- Influenza A (H3N2) was the predominate subtype.

Surveillance Specimen Requests:

- It is no longer necessary to send positive influenza specimens to WSLH for confirmatory testing.
- Please send the following specimens to WSLH: Specimens that fail to subtype (Ct <35) if subtyping was performed.

Other Surveillance Data

Respiratory Viruses

RSV activity is increasing from 26.2% to 32.2% of specimens testing positive by PCR.

Sites using rapid tests reported an increase from 28.3% to 37.5% the week ending February 16, 2013.

Rotavirus

Clinical labs reported 12.7% of the 55 specimens tested were positive. Please forward positive Rotavirus specimens to WSLH.

B. pertussis

Clinical labs reported that 3.4% of the 325 specimens were positive for B. pertussis.