



What to do about the flu?

One of the worst outbreaks in decades; specifically in K-12



It's never too soon to start preparing!

What is Influenza? aka The Flu

- ▶ “The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and sometimes the lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death.” -CDC

Symptoms

- ▶ Fever or feverish/chills
- ▶ Cough
- ▶ Sore throat
- ▶ Runny or stuffy nose
- ▶ Muscle or body aches
- ▶ Headaches
- ▶ Fatigue
- ▶ Vomiting and diarrhea



The flu can have a greater impact on children than adults

HOW DOES THE FLU SPREAD?

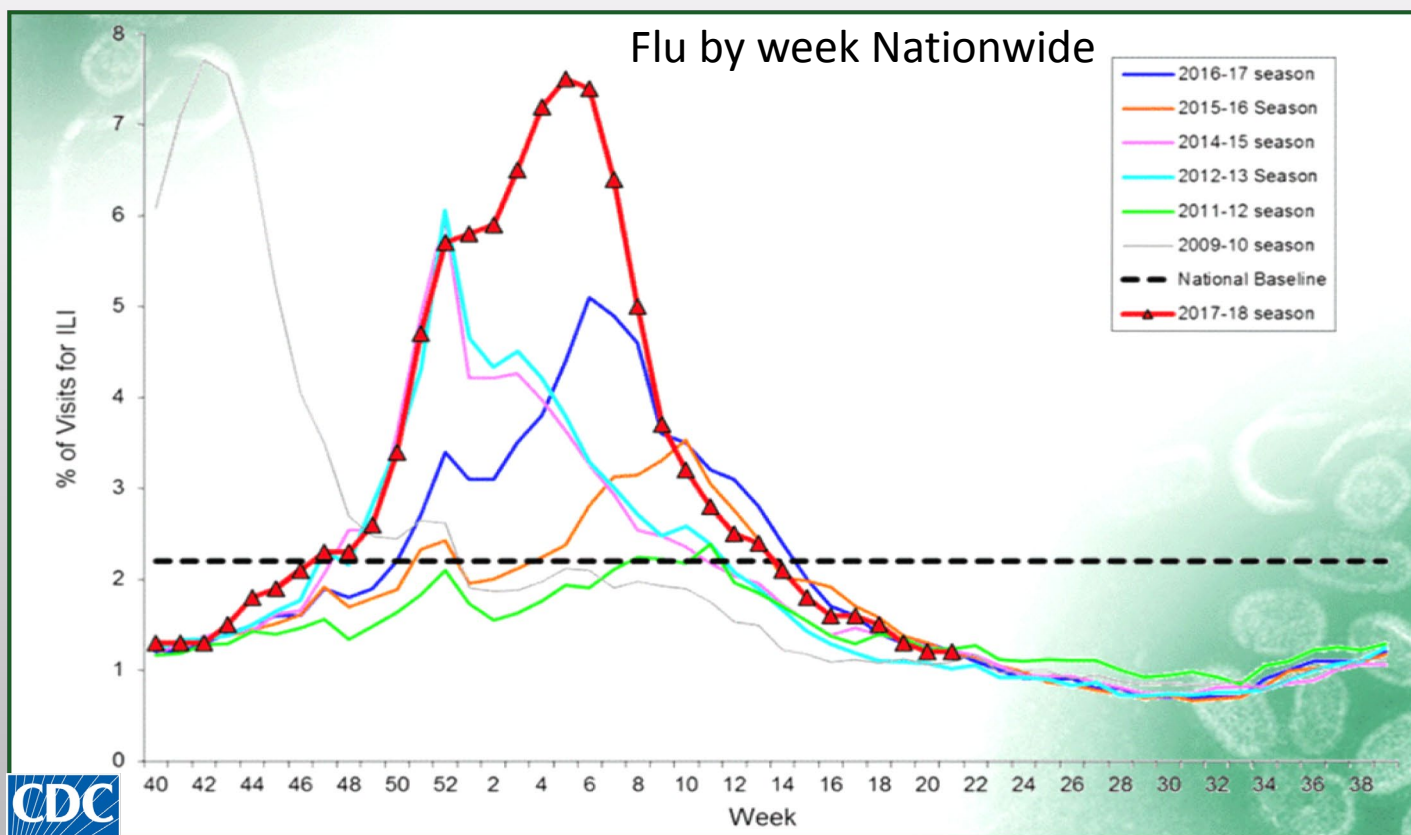
- “THE MAIN WAY THE VIRUS IS SPREAD IS FROM PERSON TO PERSON IN DROPLETS OF COUGHS AND SNEEZES.”
- THE DROPLETS CAN TRAVEL UP TO 3 FEET WHEN A PERSON COUGHS OR SNEEZES
- THE FLU VIRUS CAN BE TRANSMITTED BY TOUCHING A SURFACE CONTAINING THE VIRUS, AND THEN TOUCHING YOUR OWN NOSE AND MOUTH.



Flu season deaths top 80,000 last year, CDC says

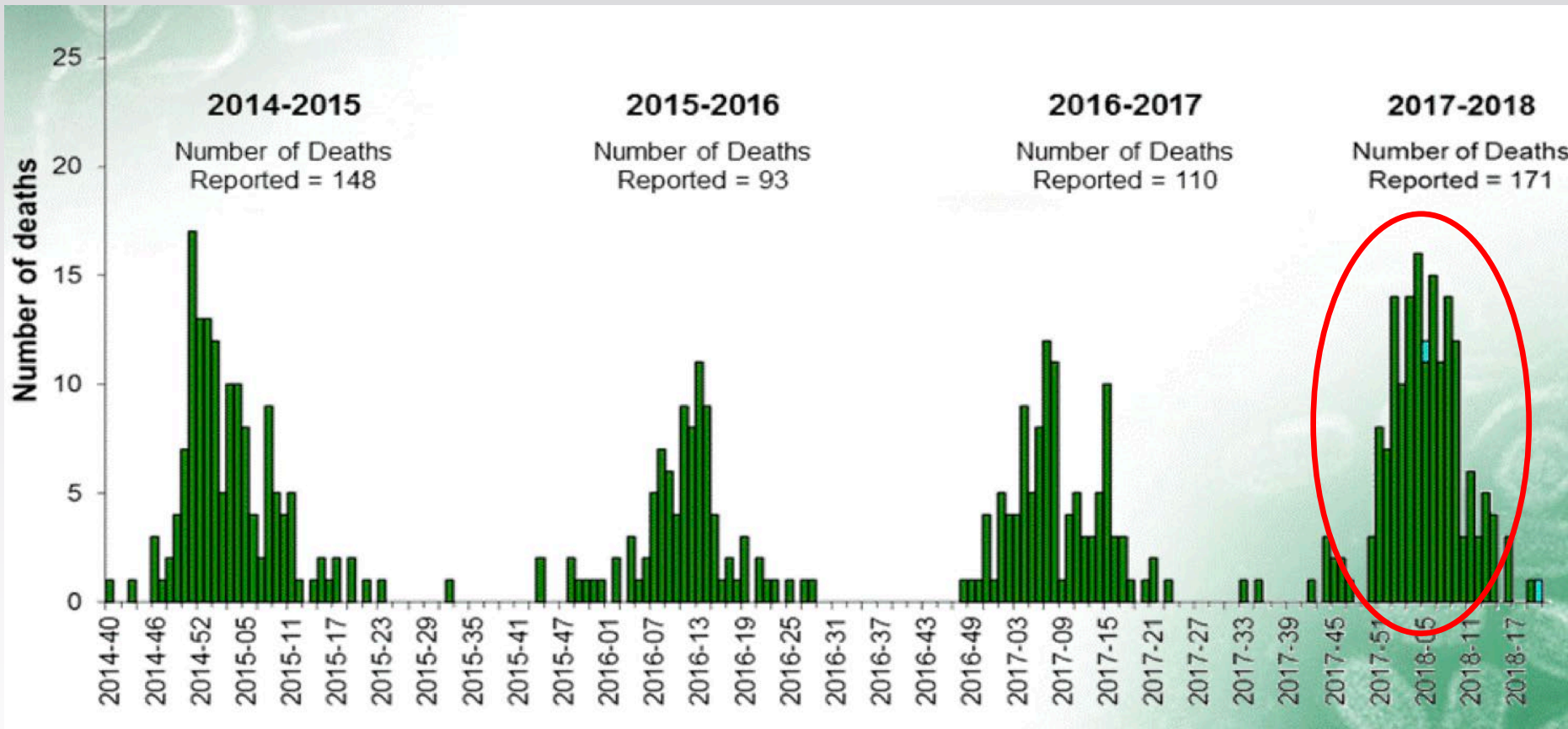
By Susan Scutti, CNN

Updated 12:45 PM ET, Thu September 27, 2018



The **red line** indicates the 2017-18 flu season compared to the past 6 seasons since 2009-10

Flu-Associated Pediatric Deaths Nationwide



❖ This past flu season we had one of the worst outbreaks of the flu nationwide with a reported 171 deaths in children.

How to Prevent an Outbreak

CDC's recommendation for preventing the spread of the flu..

- 1) Know the difference between cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing
- 2) Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces and objects
 - ▶ Ex. Desks, countertops, doorknobs, faucet handles, computer keyboards, and bathrooms
- 3) Do routine cleaning and disinfecting
- 4) Clean and disinfect correctly
- 5) Properly handle waste

Sanitizing and disinfection are NOT the same.
CDC emphasizes disinfection versus sanitizing.



Disinfection vs Sanitation

- ▶ **Cleaning removes germs**, dirt, and impurities from surfaces or objects. Cleaning works by using soap (or detergent) and water to physically remove germs from surfaces. This process does not necessarily kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection.
- ▶ **Disinfecting kills germs** on surfaces or objects. Disinfecting works by using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces or objects. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs, but by killing germs on a surface after cleaning, it can further lower the risk of spreading infection.
- ▶ **Sanitizing lowers the number of germs** on surfaces or objects to a safe level, as judged by public health standards or requirements. This process **works by either cleaning or disinfecting** surfaces or objects to lower the risk of spreading infection.

-Center Of Disease Control (CDC)

Genesan Disinfecting Products



What can you do about the flu?



1. Review products and processes

- Hand sanitizing stations
- Daily use of disinfectant
- The right application

2. Review the training program for your staff

- Emphasis on high touch surfaces
- Ensuring periodic training and education

3. Coordinate with the school nurse