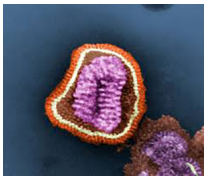


Influenza still top threat to state

Written by Staff Reports
Friday, 06 March 2020 11:01



Cases continue to be reported

The New Mexico Department of Health warns residents flu remains a more significant illness to be concerned about in the state than novel coronavirus.

The Department of Health continues to monitor and respond to both the annual flu season and the novel coronavirus outbreak. However, there remains no case of the coronavirus in the state as of Feb. 27. Flu and respiratory virus season continues with many cases still being reported at New Mexico's clinics and hospitals.

"Coronavirus still needs to be cause for heightened awareness for medical providers, but flu and respiratory illnesses needs to be the focus for residents," NMDOH Cabinet Secretary Kathy Kunkel said. *"Flu is the more pressing health risk in our state right now."*

Nationally, flu cases are increasing while in New Mexico we are still in the middle of the influenza season. The best way still to avoid flu and flu-related illness is to get the flu vaccination every year and practice common sense habits like washing your hands frequently

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and covering your mouth when you're sick and have to cough.

Also, check with your health care provider about flu vaccines. Even if you've already had the flu this season, getting a flu shot can still help prevent getting sick again with another strain.

For more information: nmhealth.org/about/phd/idb/imp/flu/.