

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT DISEASE INVESTIGATION STEPS

NC REPORTABLE DISEASE/CONDITION	NC DISEASE CODE	INFECTIOUS AGENT (S)
INFLUENZA, PEDIATRIC DEATH (< 18 YEARS OF AGE)	73	<i>Influenza A, Influenza B</i>
PREPARING FOR INVESTIGATION		
KNOW THE DISEASE/CONDITION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read about Influenza in the CD Manual. • See the case definition for Influenza in the CD Manual. • Study APHA <i>Control of Communicable Diseases Manual</i>, 19th ed., pp 315 - 322. • Print and review reporting forms: <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><i>Part 1: Confidential Disease Report (DHHS 2124)</i> <i>Part 2: Influenza, Pediatric Death (DHHS/EPI #73)</i></p>	
CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION		
COLLECT CLINICAL INFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain admission note, progress note, and discharge summary if patient hospitalized for this disease/condition. • Obtain healthcare provider clinical notes from date(s) of service for this disease/condition. • Look for evidence in the medical record that supports clinical findings described in the case definition. 	
REVIEW LABORATORY INFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review laboratory report(s) specific to this disease. • Evaluate laboratory and rapid test results to determine if requirements of the case definition are satisfied. • If pre-mortem testing was not performed, contact the CD Branch to facilitate the gathering of postmortem samples for submission to the SLPH/CDC if indicated. 	
APPLY THE CASE DEFINITION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the case definition to determine if the clinical and laboratory findings meet the case definition criteria. 	
IMPLEMENTING CONTROL MEASURES		
ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY SOURCE OF EXPOSURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting of influenza associated pediatric deaths is for surveillance purposes. Case finding and control measures will not be performed unless the death was possibly due to a novel influenza virus. See the novel influenza section for these cases. 	

REPORTING INVESTIGATION	
REPORT TO NC COMMUNICABLE DISEASE BRANCH (CD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter Part 1 and Part 2 Communicable Disease Reports into NC EDSS as a new event, or update the existing event if already entered. • Assign event to State Disease Registrar when case investigation complete. • Do an "Event_Print" in NC EDSS after assigning to the state. Keep for one year along with any additional notes. Maintain as a surveillance file, not a medical record.
SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS	
RISK COMMUNICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any death of a child may become high profile. Ensure risk communication measures are implemented. Information released to the media should be in accordance with HIPAA and other privacy practices. • Consider using risk communication tools conservatively if this is an isolated low profile case. • NC DHHS Public Information Office (919) 733-9190 is available to assist local health departments as needed.