



MATT SCHANZ, ADMINISTRATOR  
SAMUEL A. ARTZIS, M.D., HEALTH OFFICER

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**TO:** Physicians, Physicians Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Hospitals and Long-Term Care Facilities Ferry, Pend Oreille and Stevens Counties.

**FROM:** Samuel Artzis, M.D. Health Officer Northeast Tri County Health District

**DATE:** January 3, 2019

**RE: Influenza (the Flu)**

**Please ensure that this information is shared with the appropriate personnel in your facility. Thank you.**

Flu activity is increasing in Washington and is expected to continue to increase in the coming weeks. There have been positive influenza tests results and hospitalizations in the local area. Regionally flu-related deaths this season have occurred in Spokane, Pierce and Columbia Counties.

Flu season typically peaks in the winter months when people spend more time indoors. Regionally, both Type A and Type B influenza have been identified. It is not too late for the administration of flu vaccine.

**Based upon local influenza epidemiology, Northeast Tri County Health District recommends that health care facilities and long-term care facilities institute mask requirements for health care workers who have not received their influenza vaccination for the current season.**

Please remind everyone to get immunized, cover their cough, wash their hands and stay home when ill!

If you have any questions, please contact the Northeast Tri County Health District office in your county.

Colville Office: 509-684-2262, Option #2

Newport Office: 509-447-3131

Republic Office: 509-775-3111

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**Stevens County** - 240 E. Dominion, Colville, WA 99114

**Administration:** 509-684-1301, Fax: 509-684-1002

**Clinic:** 509-684-5048, Fax: 509-684-9878

**Environmental Health:** 509-684-2262, Fax: 509-684-8506

**Ferry County** - 147 N. Clark, PO Box 584, Republic, WA 99166  
509-775-3111, Fax: 509-775-2858

**Pend Oreille County** - 605 Highway 20, Newport, WA 99156  
509-447-3131, Fax: 509-447-5644

**Website:** [www.netchd.org](http://www.netchd.org)