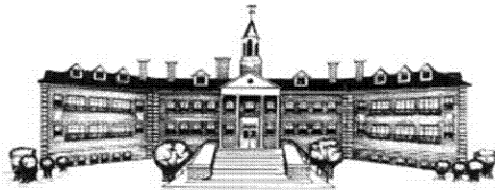


R. Joseph Ebel, R.S., M.S., M.B.A.  
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## Licking County Health Department

675 Price Road

Newark, OH 43055

### *Health Alert Network Message*

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#### **Increase in Flu Cases Identified January 26, 2011**

The Licking County Health Department (LCHD) has identified an 81.6% increase in influenza cases being reported by healthcare providers from the week of December 26, 2010, through the week of January 16, 2011. This information was gained through the department's Influenza Reporting Improvement System, in which providers from throughout Licking County submit weekly reports regarding the number of influenza cases diagnosed to LCHD.

Additionally, LCHD has received reports of 10 hospitalized cases of influenza so far in the month of January. As a comparison, LCHD received 4 such reports for the entire year in 2010.

To view weekly influenza updates you can visit [www.lickingcohealth.org/nursing/flu.html](http://www.lickingcohealth.org/nursing/flu.html)

LCHD will continue to monitor influenza cases on a weekly basis, and additional updates will be provided as the situation warrants.

If you have any questions please contact Chad Brown at 740-349-6487.