

# Responsibilities of Sentinel Providers

- ✦ Attend the webinar training for influenza sentinel providers in September. Details on the webinar will be emailed to providers. Nursing CMEs will be available.
- ✦ Access the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) by 12pm each Tuesday to report your data using the work folder mailed to you. Access the ILINet reporting system at: <http://www2a.cdc.gov/ilinet/>.
- ✦ Keep a supply of influenza kits on hand for testing. Specimen kits can be ordered through the Office of Laboratory Services (OLS) by calling 304-558-3530 or by completing the influenza/respiratory virus specimen kit requisition form. OLS will not replenish kits automatically, please make sure you order new kits when your supply is low.
- ✦ Help maintain year round surveillance by submitting up to 5 nasopharyngeal swabs from patients with influenza-like illness (ILI) WEEKLY to OLS for confirmation and strain identification. It is important to submit specimens year round in order to confirm when and where influenza viruses are circulating each year and identify changes in circulating viruses which may impact vaccine or treatment decisions or signal the emergency of a new virus with a pandemic potential.
- ✦ Contact your local health department point of contact if there are changes to your contact information or if you are having problems reporting.
- ✦ As a sentinel provider you may be called upon to help assist the local health department with testing if an outbreak has occurred at a school or other closed setting.

