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NEWS RELEASE

Flu-Related Death Count Now Stands at 13

EI PASO, Texas – Two newly confirmed flu-related deaths has brought the total to 13 so far this season. The Department of Public Health has received reports that a woman in her 70's and a man in his 80's have both died. Both had underlying medical conditions. The table below describes all 13 confirmed flu-related cases reported so far this season.

	1.	Female	50's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	2.	Male	90's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	3.	Male	90's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	4.	Male	80's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	5.	Male	80's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	6.	Female	80's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	7.	Female	70's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	8.	Male	80's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	9.	Male	80's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	10.	Male	50's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	11.	Female	70's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	NEW	12.	Female	70's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	NEW	13.	Male	80's	Underlying Medical Conditions

"Our thoughts and sentiments are with the families and loved ones of these individuals," said Public Health Director Robert Resendes. "We will continue our efforts to raise awareness about flu prevention and continue to report the loss of life to this disease as a way to encourage prevention."

There have been 6,579 confirmed flu cases reported in El Paso so far this season. There were 571 cases confirmed at the same time last year.

Public Health officials continue to urge medical providers to test for the flu and to prescribe antivirals when possible. They also encourage El Paso residents to be vaccinated and to practice the "4 C's."

1. **CLEAN** - Wash your hands often. Scrub hands for at least 30 seconds with soap and water, or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner.
2. **COVER** – Cover your cough. Use a tissue to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. Don't have a tissue? The crook of your elbow will do.
3. **CONTAIN** – Contain germs by steering clear of others who are sick. If you're sick, stay home until you're well.
4. **CALL** – Call or see a doctor if you or your child has a fever greater than 100 degrees.

For more information on the programs and services provided by the Department of Public Health, please call 2-1-1 or visit WWW.EPHealth.com

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