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March 1, 2018

NEWS RELEASE

14th and 15th Flu-Related Deaths Recorded

EI PASO, Texas – The City of El Paso Department of Public Health announced today that the number of flu-related deaths in our area has reached 15. The most recent reports involve a man in his 60's and a woman in her 50's. Both had underlying medical conditions. The table below describes all 15 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	
	12.	Female	70's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	13.	Male	80's	Underlying Medical Conditions	
	NEW	14.	Male	60's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	NEW	15.	Female	50's	Underlying Medical Conditions

"I feel that one of the most important things we can do to honor the men and women who have succumbed to this disease is to do everything we can to prevent more infection," said Robert Resendes, Public Health Director. "If you haven't been vaccinated, do so now. If you can't receive a vaccine follow all the other recommendations that we continue to stress in order to prevent more cases of flu in El Paso."

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" which have proven to be effective in preventing the spread of the flu:

1. **CLEAN** - Wash your hands often. Scrub your 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 do get sick, stay home until you are well again, so you do not spread more germs.
4. **CALL** – Call or see your 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, call 2-1-1 or visit www.EPHealth.com.

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