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## **Riverside County reports first flu-associated death of current influenza season**

A 60-year-old Riverside man who recently died at a local hospital tested positive for influenza, according to health officials.

The death is considered the first flu-associated death of this flu season in Riverside County. Last year, there were 23 flu-associated deaths in Riverside County of individuals 64 or younger. There were 80,000 flu deaths nationally, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Riverside resident had recently been hospitalized and died at the facility earlier this week, according to health officials.

“This is a tragic reminder that the flu still kills,” said Dr. Cameron Kaiser, Riverside County Public Health officer. “We continue to recommend community members get their flu shot. Get your flu shot and get protected.”

Although the individual had received their flu shot, he had underlying health issues.

There is still time to get the flu shot, Kaiser said, adding that the CDC recommends that all persons 6 months of age and older receive a flu vaccination each year. Kaiser also recommends frequent hand washing and avoiding getting close to people who are sick as ways to avoid the flu. If you or your child are sick, stay home from work and school.

For more information on where flu shots are being offered throughout Riverside County, [www.rivcoimm.org](http://www.rivcoimm.org)