MEMORANDUM

Date: March 30, 2016

To: Hospitals, Ambulatory and Community Clinics, Medical Practices, Skilled Nursing Facilities, Long-Term Care Facilities, other Health Care Facilities and Emergency Medical Service Providers

From: Lisa B. Hernandez, MD, MPH, Health Officer, County of Santa Cruz

Subject: Extension of Influenza Season

Based on local influenza activity surveillance and continued widespread influenza activity throughout the State, I am extending the official end to the influenza season to April 15, 2016. While we may continue to see cases of influenza even beyond the extension, I am assigning a specific date to the end of flu season to aid health care facilities in determining when unvaccinated employees may stop using masks.

As noted last year, the order will be issued annually and will apply to each influenza season.

I appreciate your help and support in protecting the residents of Santa Cruz County. I look forward to working with you on this and other issues impacting the health of the community. For any additional questions, please contact our Communicable Disease Unit at (831) 454-4114.