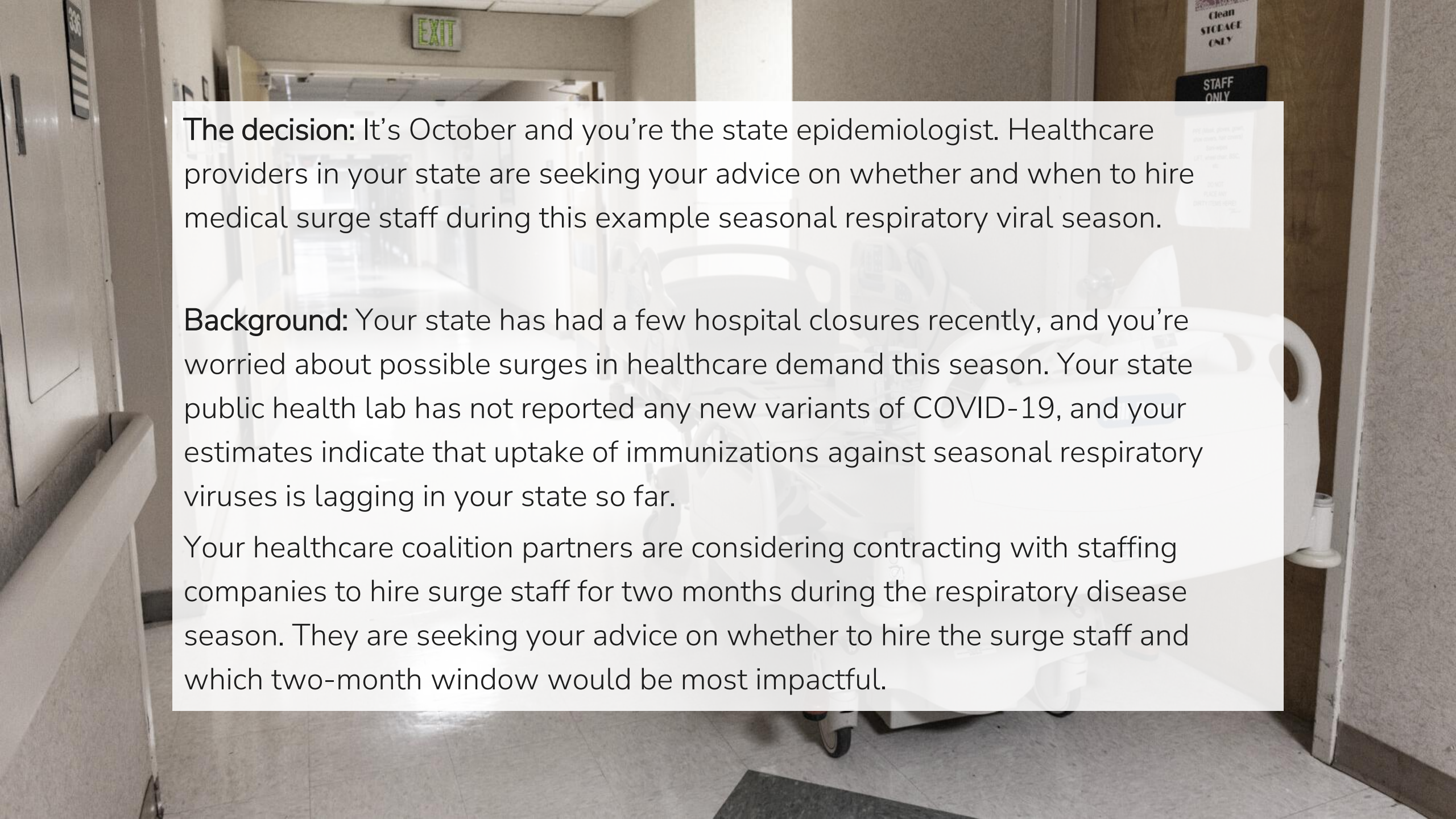


Activity 2: Interpreting modeling output to help inform a decision

Instructions for Activity 2

- You are given one public health decision to make and several modeling outputs to consider when making it.
- Review the modeling outputs and consider:
 - What type of model output are you looking at, and is this appropriate for the situation?
 - What kinds of input data were used? What could be the limitations of these data?
 - What assumptions could have been made to generate this model? Were they reasonable?

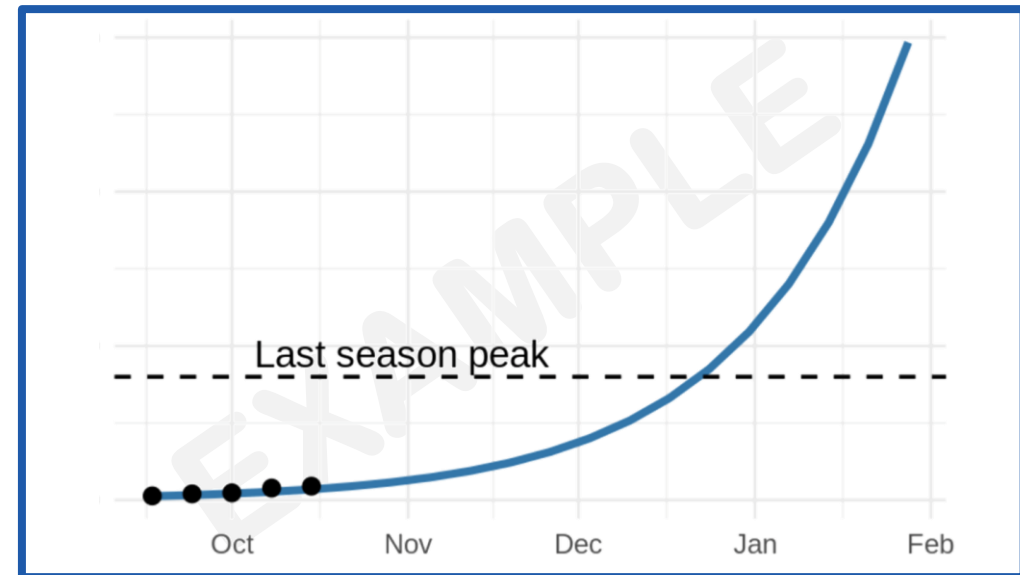
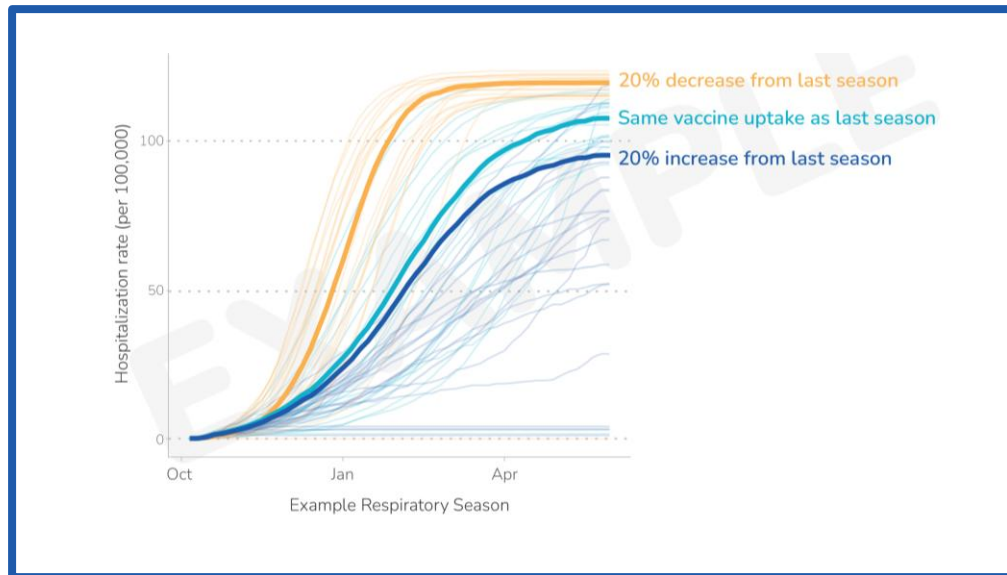
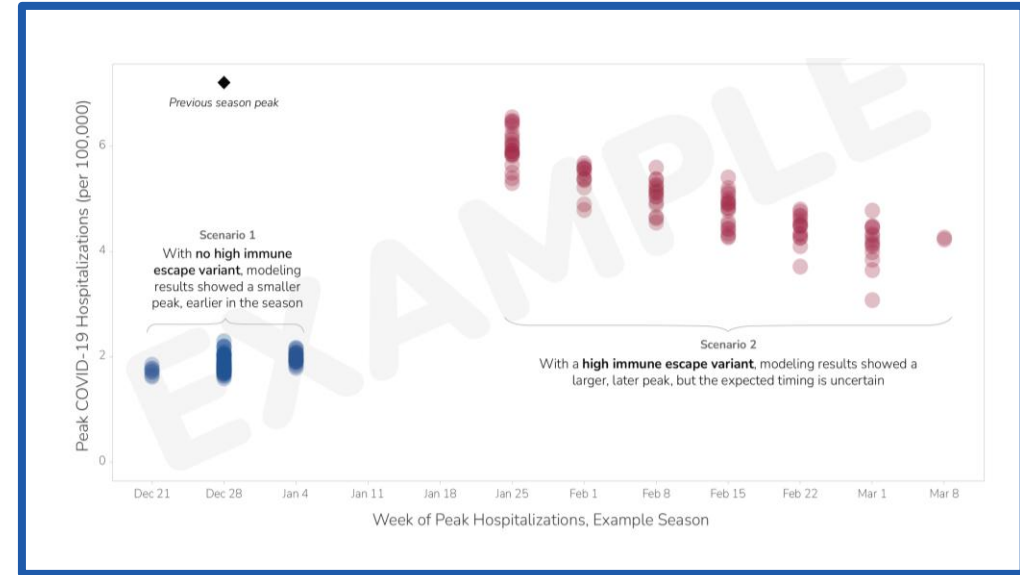
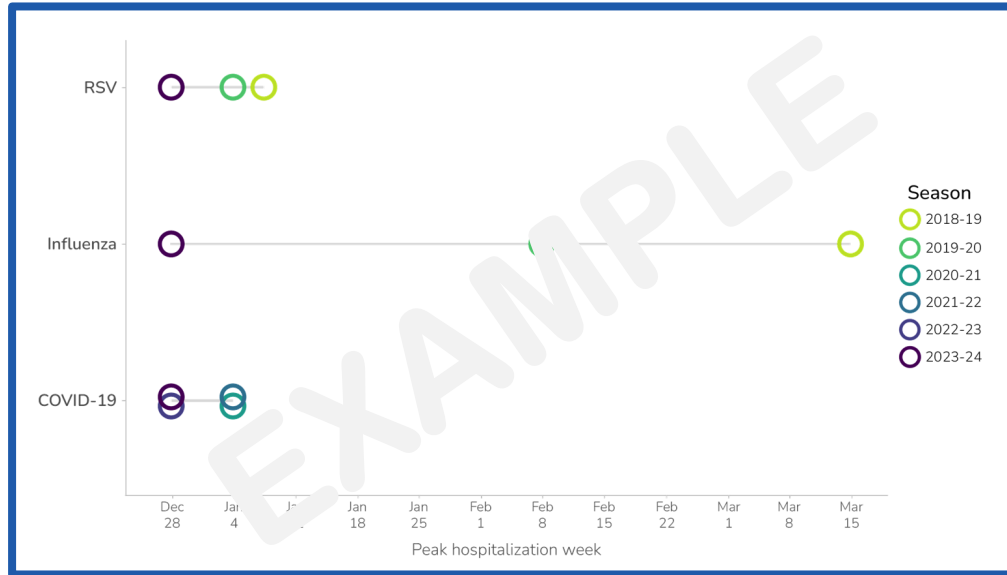
A photograph of a hospital hallway. In the center, a white gurney is parked. To the right, a door has signs that read "Clean STORAGE ONLY" and "STAFF ONLY". In the background, a green "EXIT" sign is visible above a doorway. The hallway has light-colored walls and a tiled floor.

The decision: It's October and you're the state epidemiologist. Healthcare providers in your state are seeking your advice on whether and when to hire medical surge staff during this example seasonal respiratory viral season.

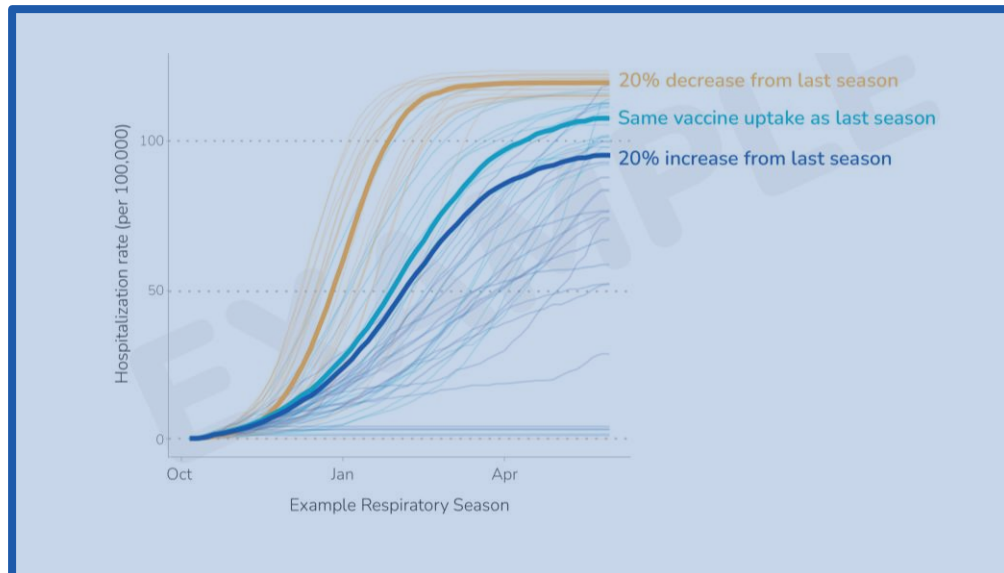
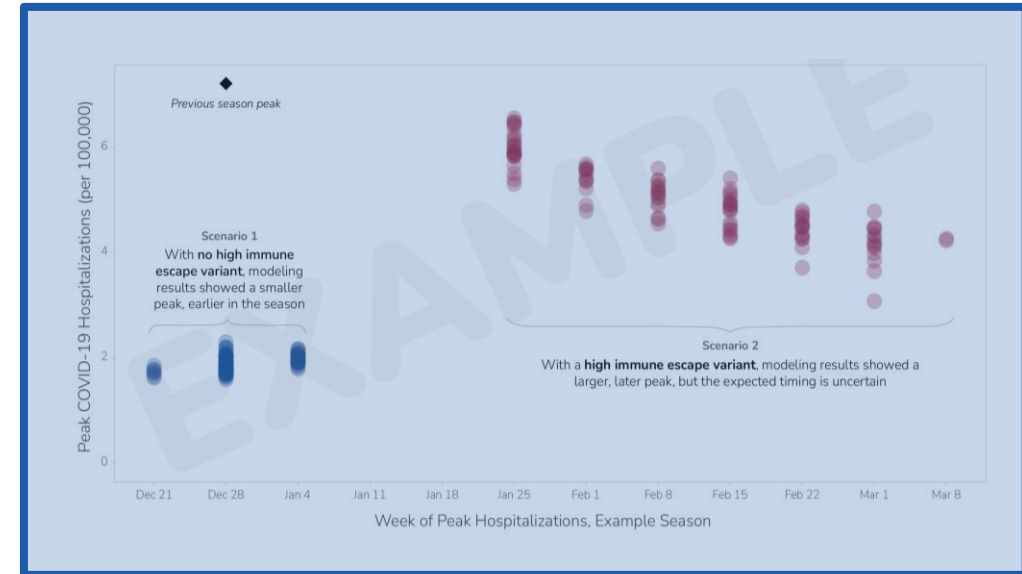
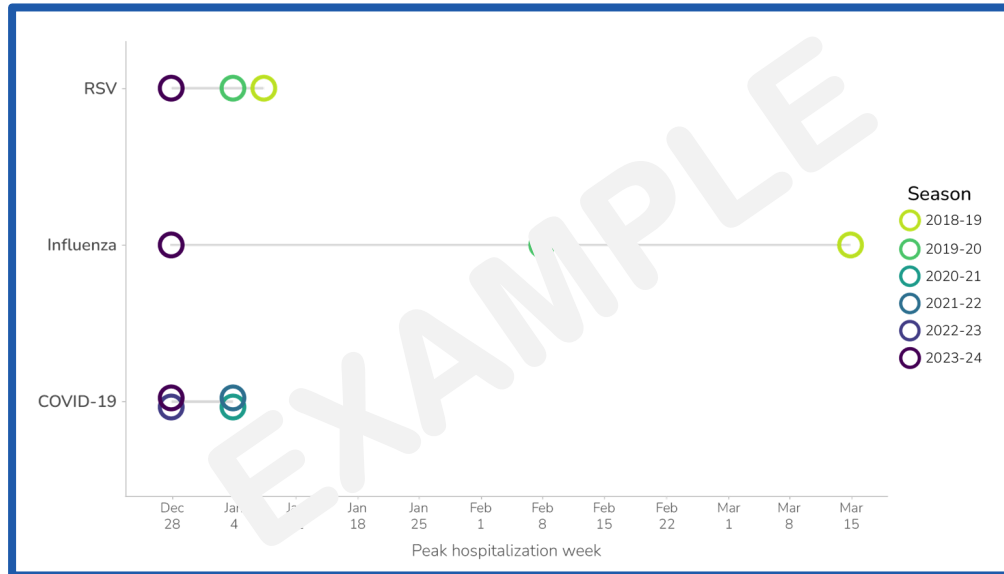
Background: Your state has had a few hospital closures recently, and you're worried about possible surges in healthcare demand this season. Your state public health lab has not reported any new variants of COVID-19, and your estimates indicate that uptake of immunizations against seasonal respiratory viruses is lagging in your state so far.

Your healthcare coalition partners are considering contracting with staffing companies to hire surge staff for two months during the respiratory disease season. They are seeking your advice on whether to hire the surge staff and which two-month window would be most impactful.

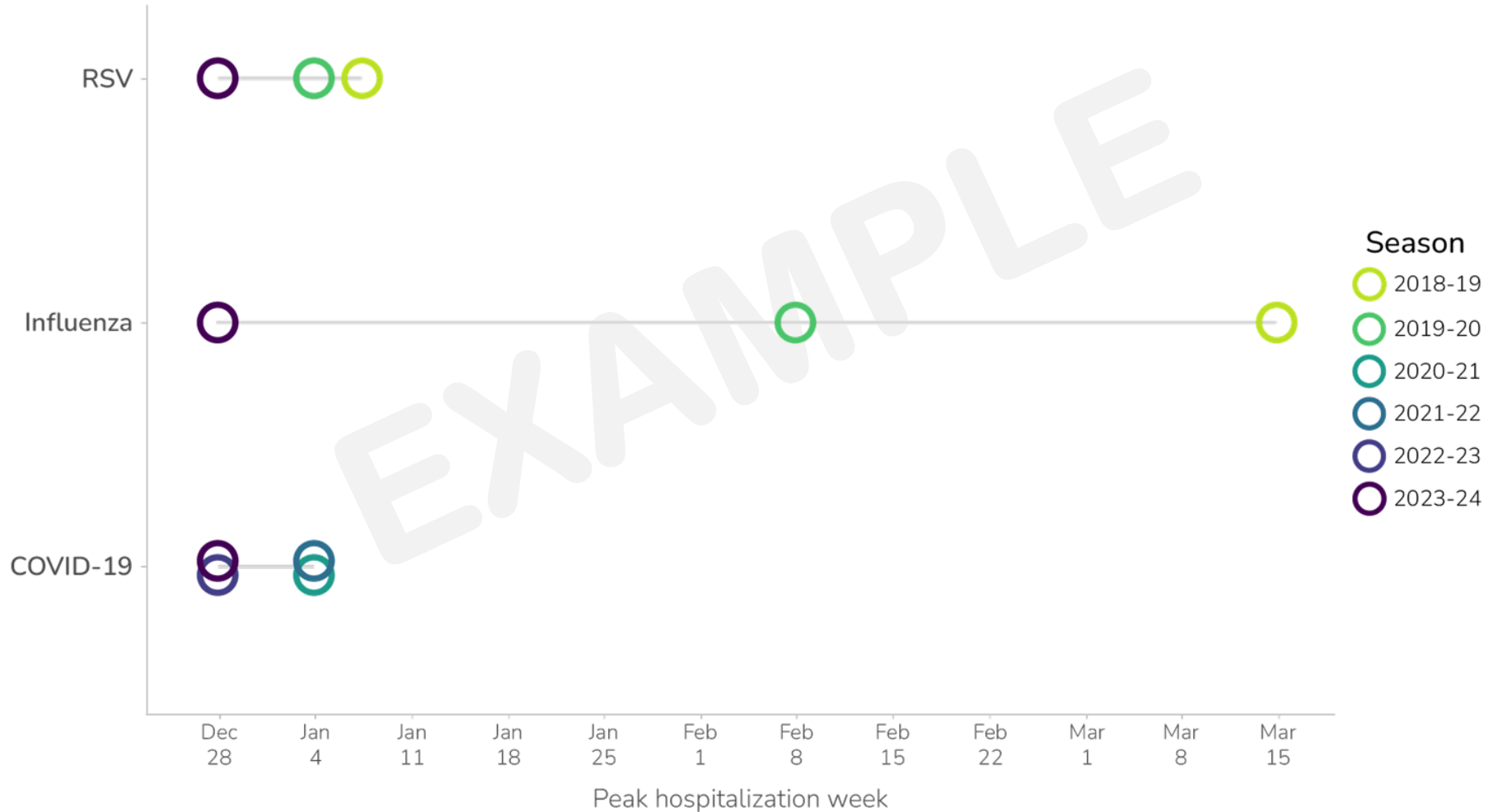
Four pieces of evidence to consider



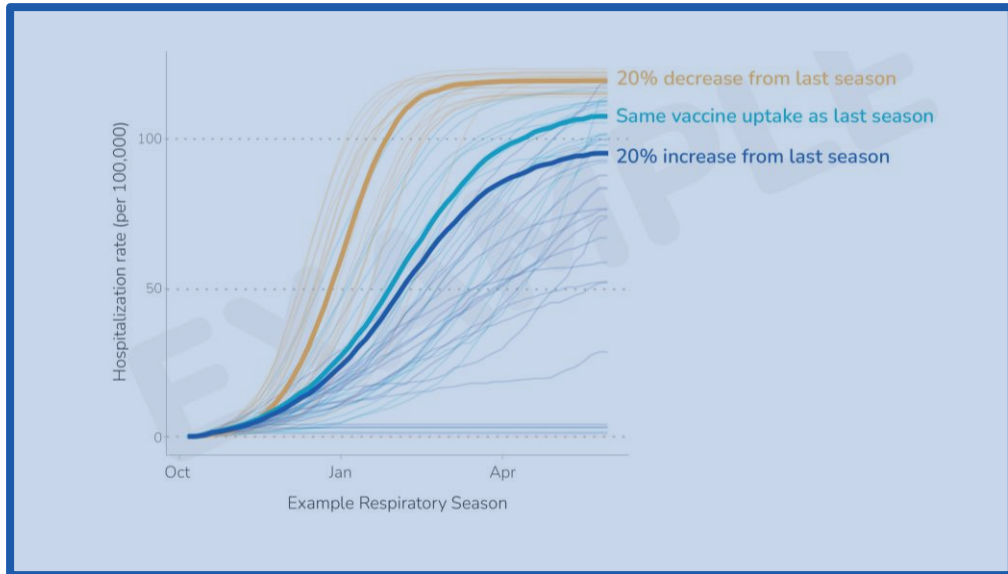
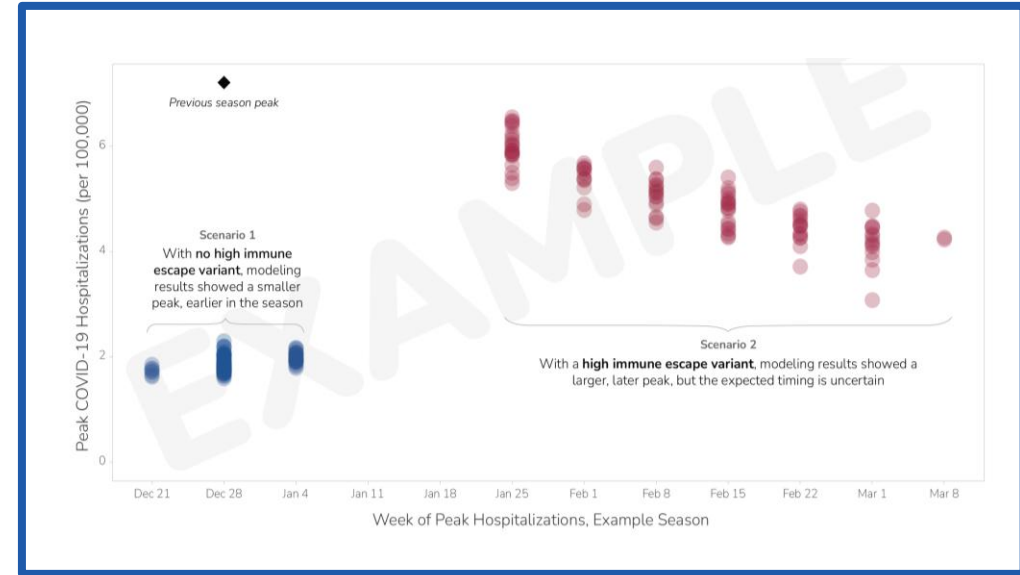
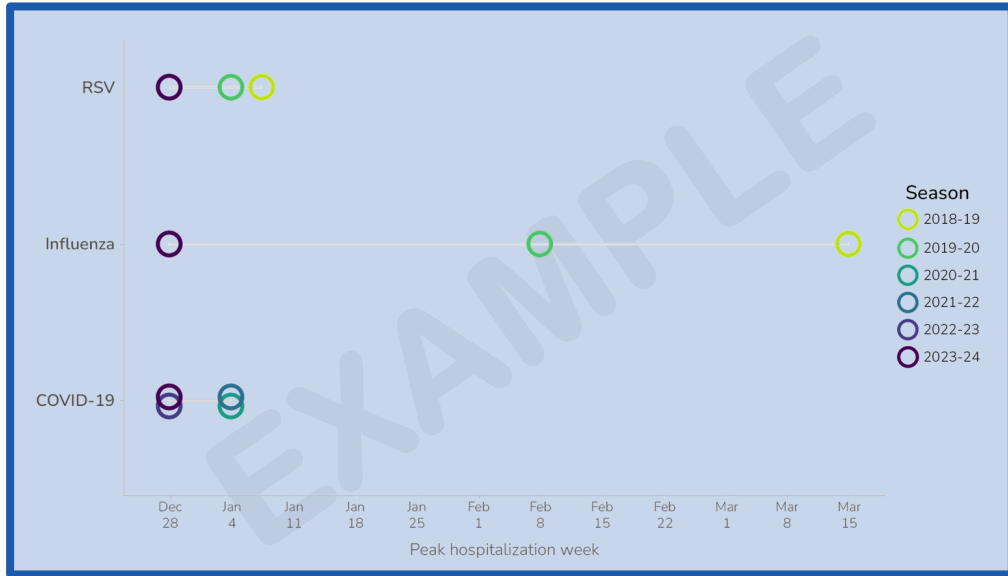
1. Historic peak respiratory hospitalizations



Historic timing of peak hospitalizations for RSV, influenza, and COVID-19



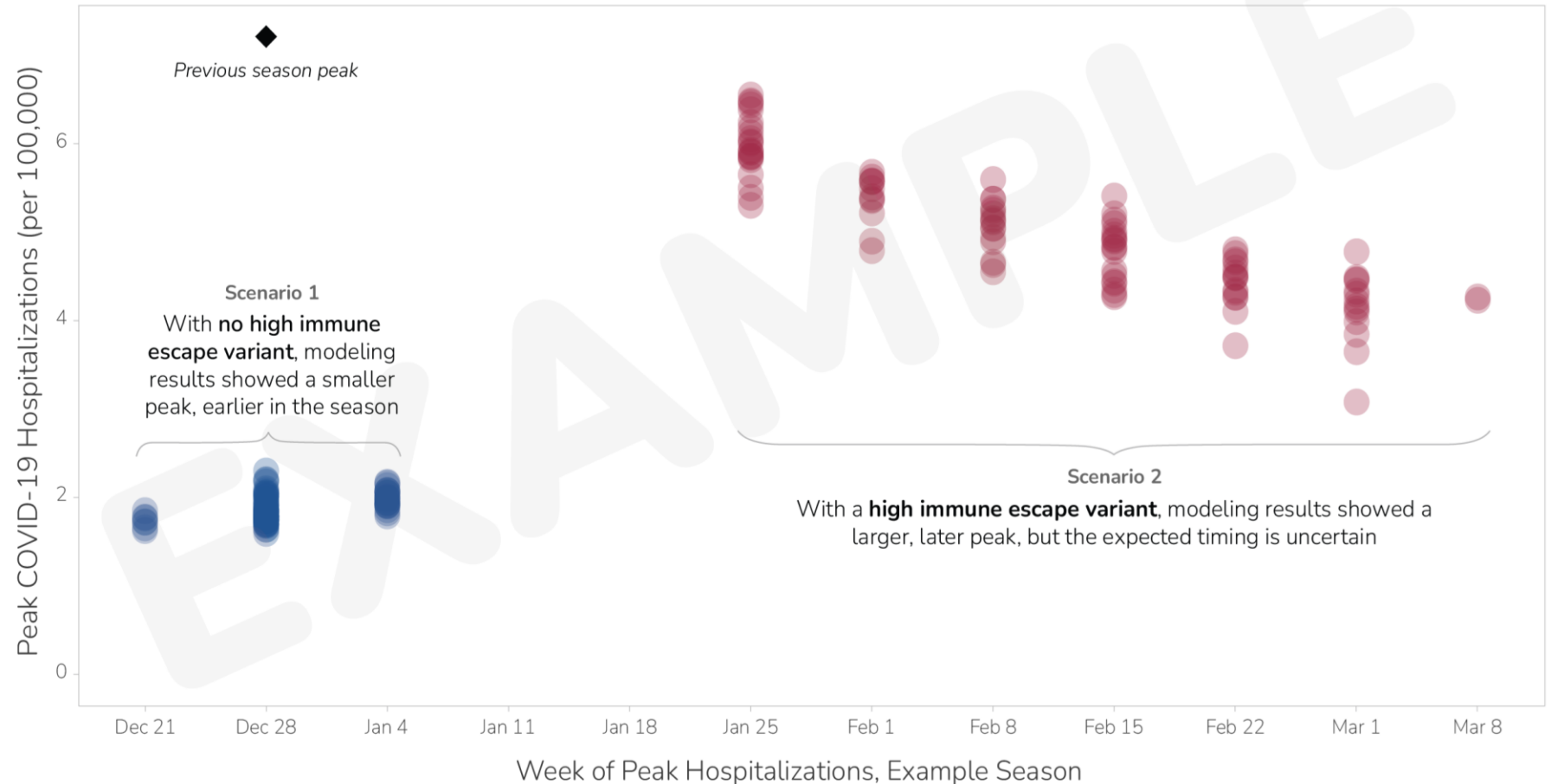
2. Projected COVID-19 peak



Estimated timing, and magnitude of peak COVID-19 hospitalizations



Modeling output from a nearby university



For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

