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Climate Issues of Influenza Mortality Risks

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We consider an interdisciplinary methodological framework to assess climate related health events. We compare the spatiotemporal patterns of influenza mortality risk in California during El Niño vs. normal weather periods. We use a stochastic methodology to account for various sources of uncertainty and generated informative influenza mortality maps and profiles. This methodology allowed us to detect significant effects of climate change on the influenza risk distributions. The findings of this study are worth further investigation that seeks substantive and biologically plausible explanations.