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The Student Army Training Corps at MU During the 1918 Influenza Pandemic

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This research project examines hospitalizations of students in the Student Army Training Corps (SATC) at MU in the fall of 1918 during the influenza pandemic. The SATC began in October of 1918 as a way for young men to train for the military while they were enrolled in college classes. One of the chapters was on the MU campus, and there are records of hospital charges for SATC recruits in October-December 1918. While we have an estimation of the loss of life during the pandemic, we do not have data for the total case number in order to get an idea of the mortality rate. By examining these hospitalizations and comparing them to death records we will be able to draw a more accurate picture of the pandemic's impact. This data allows us to calculate a mortality rate and re-admission rate, as well as learning more about the lengths of influenza hospitalizations. Results and conclusions will be presented at the 2021 Spring Forum.