

FluEx '08

Draft Concept Brief



H5N1 Asian Epizootic: Avian flu

- Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)
- Dec 2003 to present
 - Poultry outbreaks in numerous countries in Asia, Indonesia, Europe, Middle East and Africa – millions of birds culled
 - 385 human cases in 11 countries (as of Jul 1, 2008): 243 deaths (>63% mortality)
- Historically unprecedented
 - Geographical scope
 - Economic consequences

Module 2 – Situation Assessment (Refer to SITMAN Annex 2-3)

1. What directives will be provided to state employees regarding staffing/work policies?
2. Is a draft Emergency Declaration prepared that addresses necessary components of a PI response?
3. With regard to vaccines and antivirals:
 - a. Who determines vaccine and antiviral priority groups?
 - b. What are the ethical and legal issues on distribution of limited supplies?
 - c. How will you communicate the priority group decision to the public and promote uniform acceptance across the state?
 - d. What storage and transportation control plans exist to support vaccine and antiviral distribution?
4. Will a "Modified Standards of Care" policy be placed into effect for healthcare providers/hospitals/congregate care? What are the legal and ethical issues associated with this decision?

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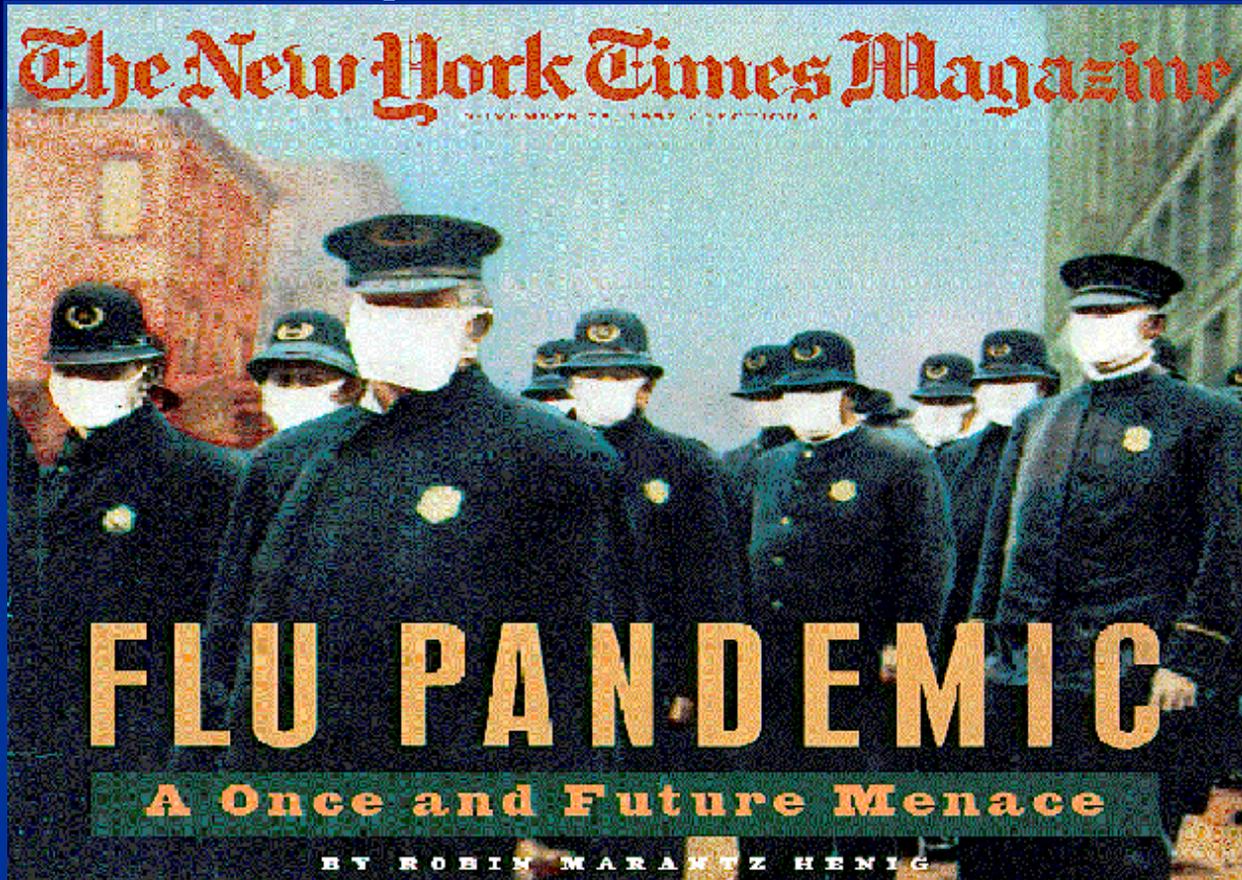
Exercises

- Aug '06 Tabletop Ex (TTX)
- Statewide FluEx, Oct '06
- Cabinet TTX, Sep '07
- Mid Atlantic Region NGA TTX, Nov '07
- CDC (+ 5 states) Functional Exercise Sep '08
- **FluEx '08, Nov 18-19 '08**

Assumptions:

- **Dates: November 18-19, 2008. The exercise:**
 - ...commences within USG Stage 4 (WHO Phase 6) – First Human Cases in North America, progressing to Acceleration and Peak Transmission Interval.
 - ...will exercise response capabilities, information sharing, collaboration, planning, coordination and preparedness.
 - ...will be a functional/limited full-scale exercise involving interaction among state and local governmental organizations, private sector and non-governmental/civic partners.
 - ...will build upon previous tabletop and functional exercises; specifically, Virginia's FluEx '06 and the 2007 Governor's Cabinet TTX.
 - ...will focus heavily on non-health community mitigation decisions and practices and a period of influenza pandemic progression from an acceleration interval into a peak transmission interval.

Complacency is the enemy of health protection!



Purpose / Goal

- **Purpose.** FluEx '08 will provide the framework through which state, local, private and NGOs can demonstrate preparations and response to a state-wide crisis involving an influenza pandemic.
- **Overarching Exercise Goal.** To demonstrate the adequacy of health and non-health centric emergency response plans relevant to a pandemic response.

Objectives:

- 1. Demonstrate the integrated response capability of participating organizations to respond to a state-wide crisis involving the pandemic flu.
- 2. Exercise *Interoperability*, collaboration, decision-making, information sharing, dissemination of public information, and decisions on prophylaxis and/or treatment among participating entities.

Objectives:

- 3. **Assess the capability to address key issues including, but not limited to:**
 - Travel
 - Social distancing and cancellation of public events
 - Distance working, administrative leave and other human resources issues
 - Continuity of essential services and personnel
 - Crisis communications
 - Antiviral distribution
 - Logistics, ethical and legal issues on distribution of limited antivirals and vaccination supplies
 - Congregate care

Objectives:

- **4. Provide an opportunity for hospitals to test major portions of hospital preparedness:**
 - Test hospital event notification systems.
 - Test the ability to conduct hospital-based influenza surveillance.
 - Identify and document the methodology used by the hospitals to determine, identify, and report the modified influenza data elements.
 - Test regional hospital information management systems (e.g. WebEOC®, hospital status tracking).
 - Coordinate functions between hospital regions and State Health Emergency Coordination Centers (or equivalent):

State PanFlu

Planning Update



Fed Review

- Submitted 7/3/08
- VDH Pandemic Influenza Advisory Committee
- CPWG Pan Flu Subcommittee
- Cabinet Pandemic Steering Committee

Participating Agencies

- Office of the Governor
- OCP
- VDEM
- VDH
 - Chief Medical Examine
 - Emergency Med Services
- Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services
- Human Resource Mgt.
- Attorney General
- General Services
 - State Lab
- Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Labor and Industry
- Social Services
- State Corporation Commission

Agencies Cont'd.

- Transportation
- Virginia National Guard
- Corrections
- Aviation
- Rail and Public Transportation
- Fire Programs
- VITA
- Commerce and Trade
- State Police
- Capitol police
- Association of School Superintendents
- Education
 - State Council of Higher Education
 - Virginia Community College System

Pandemic Influenza Planning: Health

- Risk communications
- Community containment
- Antiviral distribution plan
- Mass vaccination
- Medical surge, healthcare coalitions
- Surveillance and investigation
- Laboratory services
- Fatality management
- Altered standards of care due to resource limitations

Pandemic Influenza Planning: Non-Health

- Command and Control
- Community containment measures
 - Economic impact
 - School closure
 - Isolation
 - Voluntary quarantine
- Continuity of Operations:
 - Government entities
 - Critical infrastructure: economy, trade, business
 - Agriculture, water and food chain safety
- Human resource issues, policies (public and private)

Questions?

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epr>

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/pandemicflu>

<http://pandemicflu.gov>

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Health & Medical Subpanel Update



Key Objectives

- Engage the private provider in emergency planning and response
- Track and identify status of liability legislation for health care providers during emergencies
- Medical surge - overcoming gaps between perceived responsibilities and roles of private sector hospitals and local governments to deal with medical surge

Other Issues of Concern

- IT preparedness initiatives
- Utilities preparedness
- Smallpox legislation
 - Does it need extending/updating?
- Local Best Practices
 - Communications / Interoperability
- Continuing medication treatment during emergencies.