State EMS System Pandemic Influenza Preparedness

EMS and 9-1-1 Guidelines
Assessment of States’ Operating Plans to Combat Pandemic Influenza: Report to HSC

Background

- January 2009 – USG report rated State EMS and 9-1-1 Pan Flu preparedness “inadequate”
- June 2009 – FICEMS directed Preparedness Committee to conduct further analysis and report to FICEMS as soon as possible
- July 2009 – Preparedness Committee analyzed USG data from 2008
- August 2009 – Report approved by TWG
Preparedness Committee

Chair:
- Bob Bass, MD (MIEMSS)

Members:
- Col. Mark Gentilman (DoD)
- Mike Handrigan, MD (HHS/ASPR/ECCC)
- Rick Patrick (DHS/OHA)
- Mike Stern (DHS/FEMA/USFA)
- Gam Wijetunge (DOT/NHTSA)

EMS Assessment Findings

EMS Operating Objectives
- EMS Planning
- The Role of EMS in Influenza Surveillance and Mitigation
- Maintaining Continuity of EMS Operations During an Influenza Pandemic
- Legal Authority
- Clinical Standards and Treatment Protocols
- EMS Workforce Protection
EMS Assessment Findings (cont.)

- Total Number of EMS Supporting Activities = 22
- Completely Addressed = Basic Infection control procedures
- Not Addressed = Treating and releasing patients

Table 3: Summary EMS Ratings for the States, Territories and the District of Columbia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUMMARY RATING</th>
<th>NUMBER OF STATES AND TERRITORIES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Major Gaps</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Few Major Gaps</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Many Major Gaps</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inadequate Preparedness</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total States and Territories</td>
<td>56</td>
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9-1-1 Assessment Findings

- 9-1-1 Operating Objectives
  - Guiding Principles for PSAPs
  - Provision of Information to the Public
  - Facilitation of Call Screening
  - Assistance with Priority Dispatch of Limited EMS
  - Education and Training of PSAPs
  - Continuity of Operations

9-1-1 Assessment Findings (cont.)

- Total Number of 9-1-1 Supporting Activities = 18
- Completely Addressed = Involving PSAPs in Statewide pandemic influenza planning
- Not Addressed = PSAP triage and patient classification
9-1-1 Assessment Findings (cont.)

Table 6: Summary 9-1-1 Ratings for the States, Territories and the District of Columbia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUMMARY RATING</th>
<th>NUMBER OF STATES AND TERRITORIES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>No Major Gaps</td>
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<td>Not Applicable</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Issues Being Examined

- Coordination of Preparedness Efforts
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Medical Oversight
- Community Mitigation
- Surge Capacity and Continuity of Operations Planning
Discussion