

Wisconsin Pandemic Planning Update May 2007

1. Plans

Pandemic Operational Plan

In December 2006, the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) requested that states provide detailed information on the status of state pandemic influenza planning. In a letter to state health departments, HHS said "...state's pandemic influenza operational plans should include not only public health but also the economic, education and other sectors...HHS expects the State Health Official to provide the requisite leadership for their colleagues in other parts of State government to become engaged in this process."

The attached Wisconsin Pandemic Influenza Operational Plan with the accompanying Antiviral Distribution Plan was developed in response to this request. The Operational Plan is intended to be a snapshot of state pandemic planning at a single point in time rather than a description of how systems would function in an influenza pandemic. The format for the plan was determined by HHS and does not reflect all planning efforts nor partners at the state and local level. State agency partners involved in the development of the plan include the Department of Administration, the Office of State Employee Relations, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, the Department of Military Affairs, Wisconsin Emergency Management, the Department of Workforce Development, the Department of Public Instruction, the Office of Justice Assistance, and the Department of Health and Family Services.

With the exception of the *draft* Wisconsin Antiviral Prioritization Plan, the other plan documents attached were submitted to HHS and to the CDC. We consider each a living document and hope you and other subject matter experts will provide feedback to enhance the initial drafts.

Community Disease Containment Chapter

A community disease containment chapter has been added to the state pandemic influenza plan to address strategies for pandemic influenza containment. These strategies include: isolation, quarantine, social distancing, school closures, cancellation of public gatherings, and infection control measures to control the spread of disease. A committee comprised of representatives from DHFS, state and local Emergency Management, local public health agencies, public health consortia, and GLITC provided expertise on communicable disease epidemiology, emergency management, risk communication, special population needs, legal authority, and police services. The chapter is designed to be use as a template for local planning and delineates roles of DPH and local public health departments. It has been distributed to local health officers and tribes for review and will continue to undergo review and revision as needed.

Antiviral Distribution Plan

Wisconsin's antiviral distribution plan is a portion of its overall Pandemic Influenza Medical Countermeasures Logistics Plan, which is itself an appendix to its Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Plan. The plan includes general information about Receipt, Stage, and Store (RSS) sites; receipt, storage, allocation and distribution of materials; security measures; communication methods; command and control; and stand-down of the RSS distribution system

Wisconsin Antiviral Prioritization Plan

The attached Wisconsin Antiviral Prioritization Plan is a first draft. It will be a fluid document that is likely to change as we receive feedback and learn new information. We are interested in your comments and will also be seeking input from other subject matter experts. Please submit your feedback via the following email address: wipandemicinfo@dhfs.state.wi.us

2. Current Activities

Preparedness and Public Health CDC Mid-Year Progress Reports and Performance Measures
Currently, DPH is completing the CDC Mid-Year Progress Reports for Preparedness and Pandemic Influenza and an update on the status of six of the Preparedness Performance Measures. These are due to the CDC by May 31.

Public Health Preparedness and Pandemic Influenza (Phase III) Grant Guidance and Application

We have been told to expect CDC to release the Public Health Preparedness and Pandemic Influenza (Phase III) grant guidance and applications by the end of May. We've been given notice that there will be a very short turn-around time for the grant application, perhaps as little as 30 days. Please stay tuned as we intend to ask representatives from local health departments, tribes and consortia to participate in the formulation of grant objectives for next year based on this new guidance.

Competitive Application for Pandemic Influenza Demonstration Projects

We are still awaiting guidance from CDC on what they are terming a "Competitive Application for Pandemic Influenza Demonstration Projects". We understand they will be looking for projects in the following areas, but have no further information:

- Demonstration of PACE model for public engagement as part of the public health decision making process.
- Electronic laboratory data exchange to support pandemic influenza surveillance
- Integration of state-based immunization information systems to track pandemic influenza countermeasures.
- Development of statewide PHIN-compliant electronic mortality reporting systems
- Demonstration project for collaborative planning among healthcare providers to ensure the delivery of essential services during a pandemic influenza outbreak.
- Development of interventions that promote preparedness for pandemic disease among identified at-risk populations.

Pandemic School Preparedness

Representatives from the Department of Public Instruction and the Division of Public Health are holding regular meetings and working together on several activities related to pandemic preparedness:

- Conducted three school-closing tabletop exercises in January and February, 2007.
- Joint review of the "Interim Pre-pandemic Planning Guidance: Community Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Mitigation in the United States" released recently released by the federal government.
- A letter from the State Superintendent of Schools and the Secretary of the Department of Health and Family Services to School District Administrators, CESA Administrators and other Educational Leaders encouraging school pandemic planning.
- A joint webcast directed toward school district leadership providing basic education on pandemic influenza, and encouraging progress in planning and consultation with the local health department.

3. Future Activities

Revision of the Original Wisconsin Pandemic Influenza Plan

In the next several months we will revise the original Wisconsin Pandemic Influenza Plan (2005). We intend to incorporate much of the content from each of the attached plans to update and expand the scope of the plan. Local pandemic readiness assessments, after-action reports, a decision analysis product from UW School of Engineering, and the 2006 Gap Analysis will be reviewed prior to plan revision. Since the Public Health Emergency Plan (PHEP) is currently being revised by the Public Health Preparedness Consortia, we hope to coordinate closely so we end up with complementary documents.

Because the process and planning that goes into developing a plan is equally important as the plan itself, we intend to engage a broad and representative team of partners in different aspects of the plan revision and review process.

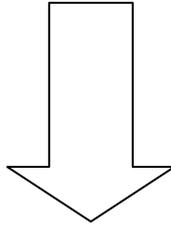
What follows on the next page is a rough snapshot of the plan development and review process. Please consider this snapshot a draft.

DRAFT

Timeline for Development of Wisconsin's Comprehensive Pandemic Influenza Plan

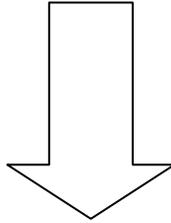
2005

Original Wisconsin Pandemic Influenza Plan Drafted



January-April 2007

Pandemic Operational Plan
Community Containment Chapter
Antiviral Distribution Plan
Antiviral Prioritization Plan

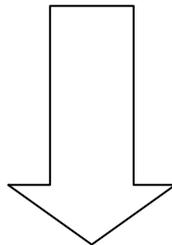


May-July 2007

Plan revision team identified
(Primarily State & Local Public Health)
Pandemic Plan Draft 1 Developed

June-September 2007

Expert Review of draft plan sections
(Science, health, special populations, ethics, public policy, emergency
response, public health etc.)
Pandemic Plan Draft 2 Developed



October-December 2007

Process of Public Review
(Business, faith, community, government, special populations etc.)
Final Plan Developed and Approved

4. Upcoming Pandemic Activities 2007

While by no means an all-inclusive list, some of the other pandemic planning activities are noted below:

- Develop Pandemic Influenza III budget and state grant objectives
- Formulate local grant objectives
- Conduct statewide antiviral distribution tabletop exercise
- Negotiate 2008 pandemic-related contracts
- Convene team to review personal protective equipment guidelines
- Participate with Hospital Ethics Expert Panel in public engagement process
- Pandemic Media engagement activity