



Public Health Preparedness Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Fall 2009

Webcast for Businesses
October 8, 2009
Rebroadcast on October 21 & 27, 2009

Housekeeping

- ▶ Frequently asked questions for the workplace are posted to the IDPH and Safeguard Iowa Partnership websites
- ▶ IDPH Website: <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/h1n1/>
- ▶ Safeguard Iowa Partnership Website: www.safeguardiowa.org





Safeguard Iowa Partnership Who we are

- ▶ Created in 2007 by the Iowa Business Council along with the Iowa Department of Public Health, Department of Public Safety and Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- ▶ Strengthen the capacity of the state to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters through public-private collaboration
- ▶ Over 160 public and private partners
 - ▶ City, county, state and federal partners
 - ▶ Small, medium and large for-profit and not-for-profits





Safeguard Iowa Partnership Three-year Vision Strategies

- ▶ Expand business resource registry to meet community needs.
- ▶ Develop communication network.
- ▶ Develop educational workshops focused on facilitating business continuity and leveraging community resources.
- ▶ Engage in state and local exercises.
- ▶ Expand funding to facilitate growth and value to Iowa businesses and communities.



Safeguard Iowa Partnership Become a Partner

- ▶ Benefits include:
 - ▶ Information
 - ▶ Situation reports
 - ▶ Coordination
 - ▶ Emergency Operations Center liaison
 - ▶ Business resource registry
 - ▶ Participation in educational workshops and exercises
 - ▶ Collaboration
 - ▶ Build trust and relationships
 - ▶ Strengthens resiliency - maintain economic viability
- ▶ To learn more about the Partnership or to apply online go to www.safeguardiowa.org.



National Framework for 2009 Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Preparedness and Response

- ▶ **Surveillance** – enhanced efforts to achieve timely and accurate situational awareness of evolving disease in Iowa to mold policy and operational decisions **CADE**
- ▶ **Mitigation Measures** – interventions to slow the spread of the virus and reduce the impact of illness on the population **CDOR**
- ▶ **Vaccination** – actions to secure safe and effective vaccines and ready a distribution, administration and tracking mechanism for immunization **IMM/TB**
- ▶ **Communication and Education** – communication campaign to ensure consistent messaging and education **CAP**



Current Characteristics of Novel Influenza A (H1N1)

- ▶ Causing more mild illness than seasonal influenza
 - Like other novel viruses has the potential to become more severe over time
- ▶ Not as transmissible as seasonal influenza
 - Like other novel viruses has the potential to become better at spreading over time
- ▶ Currently susceptible to oseltamivir (Tamiflu®)
 - Some reported cases of Tamiflu® resistance
- ▶ Most common complication is viral pneumonia



7

Why Is Preparedness for the re-emergence of Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Important?

- ▶ Currently causing global disruption
 - May get worse
- ▶ Potential of virus to mutate or re-assort
- ▶ May begin to:
 - Spread easier from person-to-person
 - Infect non-human species
- ▶ May continue to cause waves of infection



8

Signs and Symptoms of Novel Influenza A (H1N1)

- ▶ Same signs & symptoms as seasonal influenza:
 - Fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, chills
 - May include diarrhea and vomiting
- ▶ Most hospitalizations are occurring in persons 5-24 years old followed by 25-49 year olds
- ▶ 43% of deaths have occurred in persons 25-49 years of age



9

Planning Assumptions

- ▶ Severity of illness will remain consistent
- ▶ Affected risk groups will not change
- ▶ Current stockpiles of antiviral medications will remain effective for targeted individuals
- ▶ Vaccines to help protect against the virus will be produced and distributed in a timely manner
- ▶ Vaccines will be safe and effective



10

IDPH Roles and Responsibilities

- ▶ Implemented internal Incident Management System
 - manage information flow
 - vaccine distribution
- ▶ Increased surveillance
 - enhanced existing seasonal influenza surveillance network
- ▶ Antiviral & vaccine
 - Coordinating distribution with federal, state, and local partners
 - Increased storage & distribution capacity
 - from 4000 sq foot to 8000 sq foot
 - Controlled environment for pharmaceuticals
 - Received in excess of 14 tons of supplies during spring response



11



IDPH Roles and Responsibilities

- ▶ Coordination & information sharing with multiple federal, state, and local partners – a few include...
 - Regular briefings with the Governor and Lt. Governor
 - Government & private business (Safeguard Iowa Partnership)
 - Department of Inspections and Appeals
 - Department of Human Services
 - Department of Education
- ▶ Posting and updating of information on IDPH website
- ▶ Messaging for healthcare workers
- ▶ Messaging and education campaign for public



12



Surveillance
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology
(CADE)

13

Iowa Influenza Surveillance Network



- ▶ Both seasonal influenza & novel influenza A (H1N1)
- ▶ Determine types and strains of influenza
 - Comparison of different strains
 - Assess severity of strains
- ▶ Affected geographic locations and age groups

14

Iowa Influenza Surveillance Network

- ▶ Sentinel Physician Surveillance
 - Outpatient surveillance
- ▶ Sentinel School Surveillance
 - Percent of absence attributed to illness
 - 150+ schools
- ▶ Sentinel Hospital Surveillance
 - 31 hospitals participating
- ▶ Sentinel Long Term Care Surveillance
 - Will report when greater than 10% of residents exhibits signs & symptoms of flu

15

Disease Reporting

- ▶ No longer reporting individual cases of novel influenza A (H1N1)
- ▶ Novel influenza A (H1N1) - related deaths and hospitalizations temporarily reportable
- ▶ Weekly surveillance report published on Fridays and posted to department website
 - Statewide and regional trends and activity



16

Priority Groups

Initial Target Groups:

- ▶ pregnant women,
- ▶ persons who live with or provide care for infants aged <6 months
 - (e.g., parents, siblings, and daycare providers),
- ▶ health care and emergency medical services personnel,
- ▶ persons aged 6 months--24 years, and
- ▶ persons aged 25--64 years who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza-related complications



17

Priority Groups

Subset of Target Groups during Limited Vaccine Availability:

- ▶ pregnant women,
- ▶ persons who live with or provide care for infants aged <6 months
 - (e.g., parents, siblings, and daycare providers),
- ▶ health-care and emergency medical services personnel who have direct contact with patients or infectious material,
- ▶ children aged 6 months--4 years, and
- ▶ children and adolescents aged 5--18 years who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza-related complications.



18

Mitigation Measures



Center for Disaster Operations and Response
(CDOR)



19

Mitigation Guidance



- ▶ IDPH & multiple partners reviewed, revised, & developed guidance for:
 - General public
 - Childcare
 - Schools
 - K - 12
 - Post secondary
 - Business
- ▶ All guidance materials are posted on the IDPH webpage



20

Protective Measures

- ▶ Education of public
- ▶ Hand washing
- ▶ Sneeze & cough etiquette
- ▶ Staying at home if ill
- ▶ Handling employees who become ill at work
- ▶ Cleaning of facilities



21

State Stockpile

- ▶ Current inventory
 - Antiviral medications
 - Personal Protective Equipment
 - Face mask
 - Respirators
 - Face shields
 - Gloves
 - Gowns
- ▶ Receipt of additional federal supplies



Allocation and Distribution of Assets

- ▶ Assets used within established guidelines
- ▶ Pro rata by county
- ▶ Delivery to single site
- ▶ LPHA will be primary POC
- ▶ Inventory of assets prior to delivery
- ▶ Standing orders as necessary



Vaccination

Bureau of Immunization and Tuberculosis
(IMM/TB)



Vaccine

- ▶ Vaccine made using same processes and facilities licensed for seasonal influenza vaccines
- ▶ 5 manufactures producing vaccine
 - FDA has approved four vaccines, approval is pending on one
- ▶ Iowa has begun placing orders for vaccine
- ▶ Local public health agencies direct distribution of vaccine within their jurisdictions
- ▶ Anticipate enough vaccine for the initial target group
- ▶ Vaccine will not be commercially available this year



Current Vaccine Information

- ▶ Will be available in:
 - Multi-dose 5 ml vials
 - Pre-filled syringe
 - Intra-nasal (live vaccine - nasal mist)
- ▶ Will require a 2 dose series for children 9 years and younger:
 - 1st dose will not provide adequate protection
 - 2nd dose at least 21 days after 1st dose
 - 2nd dose does not have to be from the same manufacture or lot number as the 1st dose





Vaccine Timing

- ▶ Injectable 2009 H1N1 vaccine (inactivated) can be given with any other vaccine
- ▶ Nasal mist type 2009 H1N1 vaccine can be given with any other live or inactivated vaccine EXCEPT seasonal nasal mist type influenza vaccine.



Communication and Education



Bureau of Communication and Planning
(CAP)

28


Public Education & Messages

- ▶ Three C's Campaign
 - Clean – Clean your hands
 - Cover – Cover your coughs and sneezes
 - Confine – Confine yourself to your home when ill
- ▶ Postcards, emails, & billboards
- ▶ Public service announcements & sound bites
- ▶ Weekly press release templates for local public health departments


29

Iowa Governor Chet Cuber
Iowa Lt. Governor Patty Judge




Fight the Flu!


Remember the 3 Cs





Cover your cough.
Use a tissue or your elbow.



Clean your hands.
Use soap and water or hand sanitizer.



Contain germs.
Stay home when sick.

Recommendations for Businesses








31




Review / Develop Pandemic Plan

- ▶ Understand normal absenteeism rates
 - So you will recognize unusual increases
- ▶ Review sick leave policies
 - Allow sick workers to stay home when ill
- ▶ Explore flexible worksite options
 - IT infrastructure
 - Can employees caring for sick children work from home

Review / Develop a Pandemic Plan

- ▶ Continuity of Operations
 - What are your essential functions?
 - Are there critical elements in the supply chain required to maintain operations?
- ▶ Process to communicate with employees
- ▶ Review your plan with / train employees

Sick Employee Exclusion Recommendations

- ▶ People with flu symptoms should stay home until 24 hours after fever resolves
 - Without the use of fever-reducing medications
 - Illnesses lasting 3-5 days in adults and up to 7-10 days in children



Employees that Get Sick at Work

- ▶ Any employees that get sick at work should be asked to go home
 - If the employee can not leave immediately, they should stay at least 3-6 feet away from other workers (in a separate room if possible)



Emphasize Cough, Sneeze, and Hand Hygiene

- ▶ Post signs / messages
- ▶ Provide tissues
- ▶ Hand washing facilities
 - Soap and water preferred
- ▶ Antimicrobial hand gels