

State EMS System Pandemic Influenza Preparedness

EMS and 9-1-1 Guidelines

EMS Pandemic Influenza Guidelines for Statewide Adoption

U.S. Department of Transportation
May 3, 2007

Task 6.1.1
National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Implementation Plan

Preparing for Pandemic Influenza: Recommendations for Protocol Development for 9-1-1 Personnel and Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs)

U.S. Department of Transportation
May 3, 2007

Task 6.1.2
National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Implementation Plan

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

EMS Assessment Findings (cont.)

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

SUMMARY RATING	NUMBER OF STATES AND TERRITORIES
No Major Gaps	1
A Few Major Gaps	3
Many Major Gaps	16
Inadequate Preparedness	36
Not Applicable	0
Total States and Territories	56

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

SUMMARY RATING	NUMBER OF STATES AND TERRITORIES
No Major Gaps	1
A Few Major Gaps	0
Many Major Gaps	4
Inadequate Preparedness	51
Not Applicable	0
Total	56

Issues Being Examined

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

Discussion