

Resource Availability & Allocation in an Emergency

SUNY Pandemic Flu Symposium
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Libby Caruso; Dir. Health & Counseling; SUNY Brockport
Heidi Levine; Dir. Health & Counseling; SUNY Geneseo
Charles Welge; Senior Public Health Planner; Albany County
Dept. of Health

Pandemic Resource Assumptions

- Insufficient resources for all
 - <10% will receive effective vaccine
 - Inadequate supplies of anti-virals
 - Insufficient number of ventilators
- Rationing inevitable
- *“Who shall live when not all can live?”* - John Arras, Hastings Center Fellow

Foundations for Decision Making

- Personal/emotional
 - Individualistic vs. pluralistic
 - Focus on greater societal good
 - Scientific information
 - Ethical principles
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Guiding Principles

- Duty to provide care
 - Medical & mental health care givers
 - Allocating scarce resource
 - Expect government to determine & communicate rationale for allocation of resources
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“Substantive” Values Grounding Ethical Decision Making

- Duty to provide care
- Reciprocity
- Equity
- Solidarity
- Stewardship

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Procedural Values Grounding Ethical Decision Making

- Reasonable
- Open & transparent
- Inclusive
- Responsive
- Accountable

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State/County: What do Colleges Expect?

- Vaccine distribution
- Anti-viral stockpiling & distribution
- Public health messages
- Guidance/guidelines:
 - Prioritization for vaccine
 - Quarantine decisions
 - Possible assistance with contact identification & notification (unlikely!)

Flu Pandemics: A Comparison

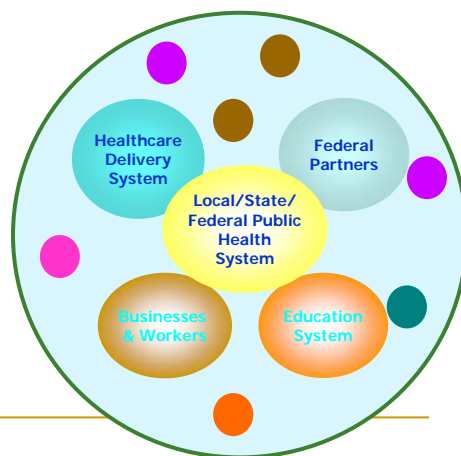
<u>YEAR</u>	<u>1918</u>	<u>2000</u>
World Population	1.8 Billion	5.9 Billion
Primary Mode of Transportation	Troopships, Railroad	Jet Aircraft, automobile
Time for Virus to Circle the Globe	4 months	4 days
Estimated Dead Worldwide	20+Million	60 Million?

If a Pandemic Happens: What to Expect

- At the peak of the most dramatic pandemic influenza outbreak scenario (e.g., 35% attack rate, 6-week duration) New York State (excluding New York City) can expect a maximum of:
 - 14,916 influenza-related hospital admissions per week
 - 3,728 influenza-related deaths per week
 - **2,609 deaths in the hospital**
- Influenza patients will most likely utilize:
 - 63% of hospital bed capacity
 - 125% of intensive care capacity
 - 65% of hospital ventilator capacity

Public Health Emergency Preparedness - A Shared Responsibility!

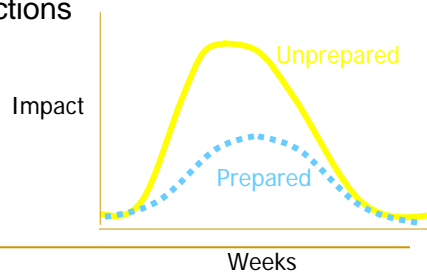
- Local – state – federal
- Domestic – international
- Public – private
- Multi-sector
- Animal – human
- Health protection – homeland security – economic protection



Goal of Public Health: Saving Lives

- **Slow spread, decrease illness and death, buy time**

- Antiviral treatment and isolation for people with illness
- Quality medical care
- Quarantine for those exposed (antiviral prophylaxis if available)
- Social distancing, travel restrictions
- Infection control
- Vaccine when available
- Maintain essential services
- Local decisions
- Communication



General Infection Control Assumptions in a Pandemic



- Core prevention and control measures (e.g., vaccination and antivirals) will not be available or will be limited
- We must prepare for that!

Role of University/College: What do Local Governments Expect?

- To identify and establish contact in local health care community including local health departments, hospitals, emergency response personnel
 - To provide sound medical and public health information to campus community
 - Resources – e.g. volunteers, physical assets to support home isolation
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To Whom do we have Responsibility

- Students
 - Staff/faculty
 - Community at large
 - Village
 - County
 - State
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Student Issues

- Not all students will be able to evacuate
 - International students
 - Students from communities with widespread illness
 - Extent of travel restrictions
 - Balancing responsibility to students with responsibility to broader communities
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Individual College Resources

- Based on level of severity of outbreak
 - In event of college closure, may use campus resources to help meet community needs
 - Facility: housing, field hospitals, morgue
 - Food
 - Health professionals
 - Plan for altered standards of care & associated impact (need pre-education)
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Staff

- Determination of “essential services” personnel
 - Health
 - Counseling
 - Facilities
 - University Police
 - Food services
- Medical reserve corps (? students)
- Depth of staff (expect alterations)

Facilities

- Space – may be a scarce resource
- Housing
 - Isolated community members
 - International students
 - Others
- Maintenance of facilities – who would provide?

Supplies

- Medical – What is on hand? Who gets it?
How to safeguard supply?
 - Medical supplies: anti-virals, oxygen, vaccine
 - Face masks
 - Energy and water
 - Food
 - Receiving shipments
 - Distributing to isolated/quarantined individuals
- “Suggested list”: part of SUNY plan**

Resources

- University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics – <http://www.utoronto.ca/jcb>
- The Hastings Center – <http://thehastingscenter.org>
- American College Health Association – <http://www.acha.org>
- SUNY Pandemic Influenza Plan
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – <http://www.pandemicflu.gov>
- New York State Department of Health – http://www.health.state.ny.us/diseases/communicable/influenza/pandemic/docs/pandemic_influenza_plan.pdf