Outbreaks and Public Health Responses

Daniel B. Jernigan, MD, MPH Associate Director for Epidemiologic Science Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion National Center for Infectious Diseases



- 1. Detect
- 2. Confirm
- 3. Characterize
- 4. Survey
- 5. Intervene
- 6. Prevent

- 1. Detect
 - Laboratory result, N. meningitidis
 - Syndrome e.g., Toxic Shock
- 2. Confirm
- 3. Characterize
- 4. Survey
- 5. Intervene
- 6. Prevent

- 1. Detect
- 2. Confirm
 - Consistent clinical symptoms, e.g., stiff neck
 - Confirmatory pathogen, *S. aureus*
- 3. Characterize
- 4. Survey
- 5. Intervene
- 6. Prevent

- 1. Detect
- 2. Confirm
- 3. Characterize
 - Define person, place, and time
 - Identify risk factors
- 4. Survey
- 5. Intervene
- 6. Prevent

- 1. Detect
- 2. Confirm
- 3. Characterize
- 4. Survey
 - Determine the magnitude
 - Identify additional cases
- 5. Intervene
- 6. Prevent

- 1. Detect
- 2. Confirm
- 3. Characterize
- 4. Survey
- 5. Intervene
 - Communicate findings
 - Stop transmission source
- 6. Prevent

- 1. Detect
- 2. Confirm
- 3. Characterize
- 4. Survey
- 5. Intervene
- 6. Prevent
 - Implement protective measures
 - Vaccinate



Survey

Outbreak of Burkholderia cepacia







- Detect: Hospital detects cases of Burkholderia cepacia among cystic fibrosis patients
- Confirm: PFGE shows common strain
- Characterize:
 - All used a commercial nasal spray
 - Spray culture grows B. cepacia
- CDC contacted to assist



B. cepacia



- Survey:
 - Develop a surveillance case definition
 - Notify HDs and Hospitals through EpiX, HAN, EIN, ClinMicroNet
 - Collaborate with outside researcher
 - Set up call-in number for possible cases
- Intervene/Prevent:
 - Notify clinicians
 - Recall nasal spray







- Detect: Surveillance identifies outbreak of *B.* cepacia in VA hospital, first cases had used nasal spray
- Confirm: PFGE shows common strain in patients
- Survey: Surveillance at hospital identifies additional cases
- Characterize: Case-Control study to identify transmission factors
- Intervene: Enhance infection control

Determine the Person, Place, and Time

Patients with *B. cepacia* Cultures, June 2003 to June 2004, Hospital A, MO

Total n = 18



Characterize with Case-Control Study Factors Associated With *B. cepacia* Infection/Colonization

| Exposure | Cases N=18 N (%) | Controls N=18 N (%) | mOR* | 95% CI | Ρ |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------|------------|------|
| Hospital > 6d | 13 (72) | 7 (39) | | | 0.04 |
| Ventilator | 12 (67) | 4 (22) | 9.0 | 1.5 – 199 | 0.01 |
| Vancomycin | 11 (61) | 3 (17) | 9.0 | 1.48 - 199 | 0.03 |
| Nebulized albuterol | 17 (94) | 14 (78) | 4.0 | 0.5 – 99 | 0.18 |
| Nasal spray | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | | | |

* Mantel-Hanszel matched odds ratio

Pulsed-Field Gel Electrophoresis



Unexplained Encephalitis in Organ Transplant Patients





Unexplained Encephalitis

• Detect:

- Unexplained encephalitis in organ transplant recipients
- Confirm:
 - Multiple tests negative by IHC, in situ hybridization, serology, culture
 - Suckling mice brain path makes diagnosis









IHC





Zaki, Paddock, Shieh, Guarner IDPA, CDC





EM





IHC

Rabies



Zaki, Paddock, Shieh, Guarner IDPA, CDC

EM





Rabies in Organ Recipients

Survey:

- Further path review identifies one more case
 - Nosocomial?
 - Coincidence?

Characterize:

- Stored vessel for liver transplant was used in a subsequent patient
- Unused tissues kept in a "Vessel Bank"

Intervene/Prevent:

 New rules from JCAHO, AABB, communicate findings





Responding to SARS in Taiwan





















Suspect Case CLIN Definition





Suspect Case CLIN Definition







Suspect Case CLIN Definition Confirmed Case Definition

LAB CLIN EPI













Community Response: Required Fever Screening for Public Buildings



Community Response

Mandated Mask Use for

- Travel on public transport
- Taxi drivers





Community Mobilization: Population-wide Body Temperature Monitoring Campaign and SARS Hotline



Community Response: Community Disinfection



Border Responses



緊急保健通告

紧急保健通告



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Hurricane Katrina Response



- Loss of infrastructure in Louisiana
- Repeated displacement of evacuees
- Delay in getting adequate medical care
- Monitoring
 - Multiple possible pathogens
 - Multiple places for evacuees



- Detect: What?
- Confirm: What?
- Characterize: What?
- Survey: For everything.
- Intervene/Prevent: Broadly

- CDC initiates Emergency Operations Center
- Stands up "Outbreak Team"
 - Epi & Lab staff in pathogen-specific areas ready to respond if needed
- Deploys teams to shelter areas to monitor syndromes



Survey

Syndromic Surveillance













"Cajun Crabs"

Rash Illness



"Cajun Crabs" (Mite Dermatitis)



"Cajun Crabs" (Mite Dermatitis)





"Cajun Crabs" (Mite Dermatitis)



"Katrinapox" (Drug Reaction)



"Cajun Crabs" (Mite Dermatitis)





"Katrinapox" (Drug Reaction)

"Toxic Gumbo Gumba"



"Cajun Crabs" (Mite Dermatitis)





"Katrinapox" (Drug Reaction)

"Toxic Gumbo Gumba" (Community MRSA)

Conclusion

- During outbreaks and responses there is a constant interplay between the laboratory and epidemiologic activities
- Iterative cycles of detection, confirmation, characterization, and survey provide information for intervention and prevention activities

Questions?



Daniel B. Jernigan, MD, MPH Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion National Center for Infectious Diseases DJernigan@cdc.gov