HOSPITAL PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PLANNING CHECKLIST



Planning for pandemic influenza is critical for ensuring a sustainable healthcare response. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), with input from other Federal partners, have developed this checklist to help hospitals assess and improve their preparedness for responding to pandemic influenza. Because of differences among hospitals

(e.g., characteristics of the patient population, size of the hospital/community, scope of services), each hospital will need to adapt this checklist to meet its unique needs and circumstances.¹ This checklist should be used as one of several tools for evaluating current plans or in developing a comprehensive pandemic influenza plan. Additional information can be found at <u>www.pandemicflu.gov</u>.

An effective plan will incorporate information from state, regional, tribal and local health departments, emergency management agencies/authorities, hospital associations and suppliers of resources. In addition, hospitals should ensure that their pandemic influenza plans comply with applicable state and federal regulations and with standards set by accreditation organizations, such as the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). Comprehensive pandemic influenza planning can also help facilities plan for other emergency situations.

1. Structure for planning and decision making.

Completed	In Progress	Not Started				
			Pandemic i	nfluenza has been incorpora	ted into disaster planning a	nd exercises for the hospital. ²
				iplinary planning committee reparedness planning and pre-		cifically address pandemic
			-	d backup responsibility has les, titles and contact information	-	ting preparedness planning.
			Primary:			
				(Name)	(Title)	(Contact info)
			Backup:			
				(Name)	(Title)	(Contact info)
			categories t	below that apply and develop prmation for each personnel	p a list of committee memb	n setting) the following: (Check bers with the name, title, and attach to this checklist.)
				ital administration		
				counsel/risk management		
				tion control/hospital epidem	iology	
				ter coordinator		
				c relations coordinator/publi		
				cal staff (e.g., internal medic	ine, pediatrics, hospitalist,	infectious disease)
				ng administration		
			Huma	an resources (personnel, incl	uding Equal Employment	Opportunities)
			Facili	ty personnel representative ((e.g., union representative)	
			Occuj	pational health		
			Physi	cal therapy		
			Intens	sive care		
			Emerg	gency department		
			Respi	ratory therapy		

1 Checklists applicable to other healthcare settings (e.g., residential and long-term care facilities, emergency medical services, physician offices and clinics, and home health care) are available. See www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/healthcare/index.html.

2 Hospitals using the Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) may wish to modify the terminology and planning structure in this checklist to be consistent with that model.

3 An existing emergency or disaster preparedness committee may be assigned this responsibility.



1. Structure for planning and decision making. (continued)

Completed	In Progress	Not Started			
			Diagnostic imaging ((radiology)	
			Discharge planning		
			Staff development/ec	lucation	
			Engineering and mai	ntenance	
			Environmental (hous	ekeeping) services	
			Central (sterile) servi	ices	
			Security		
			Dietary (food) servic	es	
			Pharmacy services		
			Information technolo	ogy	
			Purchasing agent /ma	aterials management	
			Laboratory services		
			Expert consultants (e	e.g., ethicist, mental/b	behavioral health professionals)
			Other member(s) as a local coroner, medica		unteer services, community representative, clergy, ns)
				al health departments	nfluenza planning resources have been identified and the state hospital association (insert names,
			Local health department:		
			(Name)	(Title)	(Contact info)
			State health department:		
			(Name)	(Title)	(Contact info)
			State hospital association:		
			(Name)	(Title)	(Contact info)
			Tribal health association:		
			(Name)	(Title)	(Contact info)
					s groups ⁴ , including bioterrorism/communicable en identified. (Insert name, title and contact
			City:		
			(Name)	(Title)	(Contact info)
			County:		
			(Name)	(Title)	(Contact info)
			Other regional (and/or trib	al):	
			(Name)	(Title)	(Contact info)
					groups have been contacted for information on
<u> </u>			coordinating the facility's		

⁴ State health departments should be contacted for information on pandemic influenza preparedness planning.

2. Development of a written pandemic influenza plan.

Completed	In Progress	Not Started	
			Copies of relevant sections of the HHS Pandemic Influenza Plan (available at <u>www.hhs.gov/</u> <u>pandemicflu/plan/</u>) and policy documents that may be forthcoming (available at <u>www.pandemicflu.gov</u>) have been obtained and reviewed for incorporation into the facility's plan.
			Copies of relevant sections of other available plans (i.e., state, tribal, regional, or local) have been obtained and reviewed for incorporation into the facility's plan.
			State Regional Local Tribal A copy of the facility plan and other relevant materials are available in Administration and Infection Control. (List other locations where information is available, including facility intranet sites.) (Location) (Other locations)
			The plan includes strategies for collaborating with local and regional planning and response groups and hospitals and other healthcare facilities in order to coordinate response efforts at the community level (e.g., staffing, material and other resources, triage algorithms, etc.).
			The facility plan includes the elements listed in #3 below.
			The plan identifies the person(s) authorized to implement the plan and the organizational structure that will be used, including the delegation of authority to carry out the plan 24/7.
			The plan stratifies implementation of specific actions on the basis of the WHO Pandemic Phases, US Government Pandemic Stages, and the pandemic severity index level worldwide, in the United States and at the local level. (See section IV and Appendix 3 of the "Community Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Mitigation" at <u>www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/community/commitigation.html</u>)
			Responsibilities of key personnel and departments within the facility related to executing the plan have been described.
			Personnel who will serve as back-up (e.g., B team) for key personnel roles have been identified.
			A tabletop simulation exercise or other exercises have been developed to test the plan.
			Date performed () Date performed ()
			A full scale drill/exercise has been developed to test the plan.
			Date performed ()
			The plan is updated regularly and includes current contact information and lessons learned from exercises and drills.

3. Elements of an influenza pandemic plan.

Completed	In Progress	Not Started	
			A plan is in place for surveillance and detection of pandemic influenza in hospital patients and staff.
			A method for performing and reporting syndromic surveillance for persons with influenza-like illness has been tested and evaluated during the regular influenza season in preparation for using the system for pandemic influenza surveillance. Hospital sites for syndromic surveillance should include the emergency department, hospital clinics, and occupational health. Surveillance reports are sent to hospital epidemiology/infection control personnel and to the local health authority. (The frequency of reporting should be determined by the local health authority and reflect the pandemic severity level, as well as any applicable federal or state recommendations.)

Completed	In Progress	Not Started							
				and for u planning nearing t	pdating the p committee w	andemic re	sponse coordin nic influenza h	public health advisories (federal and state) ator and members of the pandemic influenza as been reported in the United States and is ion see <u>www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.</u>	
				<u>htm.</u>)					
				Primary:			(771-1-)	(2	
					(Name)		(Title)	(Contact info)	
				Backup:	(Name)		(Title)	(Contact info)	
					· /				
				illness an patients a during se operating	nong hospita and staff with casonal influe g capacity, ind cal signs and	lized patien influenza- nza will en cluding staf	ts, volunteers, a like illness). (H sure that the ho fing and supply	toring and reporting seasonal influenza-like and staff (e.g., weekly or daily number of aving a system for tracking illness trends spital can detect stressors that may affect r needs, during a pandemic.) Information on vailable at <u>www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/</u>	
				and/or sta	aff with symp	ptoms of pa	ndemic influen	n and diagnosis of hospitalized patients za. Information on the clinical signs and ov/flu/professionals/diagnosis/.	
				influenza from ano includes infection	who are seen ther facility of criteria for de	n in the emo or referred f etecting a p sures to be i	ergency departi for hospitalizations in the second se	ent of persons with possible pandemic nent, hospital clinics, or are transferred on by an admitting physician. The protocol e diagnostic work-up to be performed, nedical treatment, and directions for	
								action that are based on the Pandemic ww.cdc.gov/flu.)	
				of season monitorin	nal influenza ang system is p	among pations among pations and the second s	ents and staff in lement prevent	y review healthcare-associated transmission the facility. Information used from this ion interventions (e.g., isolation, cohorting). demic influenza transmission.)	
			A facility communication plan has been developed and is coordinated with the local health authority. For more information, see <u>www.hhs.gov/pandemicflu/plan/sup10.html</u> .						
				Key public health points of contact for communication ⁵ during an influenza pandemic have been identified. (Insert name, title and contact information for each.)					
				Local hea	alth departme	ent commur	nication contact	:	
				(Name)		(Title)		(Contact info)	
				State hea	lth departme	nt commun	ication contact:		
				(Name)		(Title)		(Contact info)	
				Tribal he	alth departme	ent commu	nication contac	::	
				(Name)		(Title)		(Contact info)	
				reporting	bility has bee , status updat and backup p	tes) during	for communica a pandemic. (Ir	ations with public health authorities (i.e., case sert names, titles and contact information of	
				Primary:					
					(Name)		(Title)	(Contact info)	
				Backup:	(Name)		(Title)	(Contact info)	
			1		(manne)		(THU)	(Contact mill)	

⁵ Public health points of contact for communicating or reporting during a pandemic may be different from those who are involved in pre-pandemic planning.

Completed	In Progress	Not Started								
									public. (Insert nat	me, title and
					formation of p	primary and	backup perso	ons for each)		
					pokesperson:					
					(Name)		(Title)		(Contact info)	
				Backup:						
					(Name)		(Title)		(Contact info)	
				Public rel	ations spokes	nerson.				
					utions spones	-				
					(Name)		(Title)		(Contact info)	
				Backup:						
				((Name)		(Title)		(Contact info)	
									ce announcements /e been discussed.	s (PSAs),
			_	Plans and responsibilities for communicating with hospital staff, volunteers, and private medical staff have been developed. Anticipate employee fear/anxiety and communications accordingly.						
				Plans and been deve		es for comr	nunication wi	th patients an	d their family mer	nbers have
			-	status and informati	l impact of par on of primary	ndemic influ and backup	uenza in the h persons.)	ospital. (Inse	s with staff regardi rt names, titles and	
					(NI)				(Contract info)	
					(Name)		(Title)		(Contact info)	
				Backup:	(Name)		(Title)		(Contact info)	<u> </u>
			-	The types communi	s of communic cation (e.g., in te for individu	ation needs	(e.g., staff an	aper reports)	y updates) and met have been identifi- pilities, or limited	ed and are
				the region emergence those invo communi	n (e.g., other he by medical serve olved with disa cation in real-to uring a pander	ospitals, lor vices, clinic aster prepar time and be	ng-term care a s, relevant co redness]) with able to repor	ind residentia mmunity org which it will t information	their points of con- l facilities, local h anizations [includi l be necessary to n n in a timely and a cts and attach a co	ospital's ng naintain ccurate
				(location	of list)					
				The facili	ity has been re				ospitals regarding l	ocal plans for
					lity communic				al and informati	an fan
			patier meas	nts and v ures for p	isitors to ensu	re that the uenza are ι	implications	of and basi	nel and information c prevention and formation and res	control
			_	pandemic	e influenza (e.g	g., identifies	and facilitate	es access to av	ating education and vailable programs, ct information.)	
				(Name)		(Title)		(Contac	t info)	

Completed	In Progress	Not Started	
			Current and potential opportunities for long-distance (e.g., Web-based) and local (e.g., health department- or hospital-sponsored) influenza training programs have been identified. (See www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/training/ .)
			Language, format (i.e., prepared for individuals with visual, hearing or other disabilities) and reading-level appropriate materials for clinical and non-clinical personnel have been identified to supplement and support education and training programs (e.g., materials available through state and federal public health agencies and through professional organizations), and a plan is in place for obtaining these materials.
			Education and training for hospital personnel includes information on differences in pandemic influenza infection prevention and control measures if necessary and are provided in languages and format (i.e., prepared for individuals with visual, hearing or other disabilities) appropriate for hospital personnel. Regular education and training should include, but not be limited to: training in Standard and Droplet Precautions; use of respiratory protection; social distancing and respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette.
			Education and training includes information on the hospital's pandemic influenza plan, including relevant personnel policies, and operational changes that will occur once the plan is implemented.
			A plan has been established for expediting the identification of, credentialing and training of non-facility staff brought in from other locations within the region to provide patient care when the hospital reaches a staffing crisis.
			Informational materials (e.g., brochures, posters) on pandemic influenza and relevant hospital policies (e.g., visitation) have been developed or identified for patients and their families. These materials are language format (i.e., prepared for individuals with visual, hearing or other disabilities) and reading-level appropriate and a plan is in place to disseminate these materials to hospital patients and visitors.
			A plan has been developed for triage (e.g., initial patient evaluation) and admission of patients during a pandemic that includes the following:
			A designated location, separate from other clinical triage and evaluation areas, (utilizing the principles of social distancing) for the triage of patients with possible pandemic influenza.
			Assigned responsibility to specifically-trained healthcare personnel overseeing the triage process.
			Use of signage to direct and instruct patients with possible pandemic influenza on the triage process that is language, format (i.e., prepared for individuals with visual, hearing or other disabilities) and reading-level appropriate.
			A telephone triage system for prioritizing patients who require a medical evaluation (i.e., those patients whose severity of symptoms or risk for complications necessitate being seen by a physician).
			Criteria for prioritizing admission of patients to those in most critical need.
			Coordination with local emergency medical services and 9-1-1 services for transport of suspected flu patients.
			A method to specifically track admissions and discharges of patients with pandemic influenza
			A plan has been developed to address the needs of specific patient populations that may be disproportionately affected during a pandemic or that may need services normally not provided by the hospital (e.g., pediatric and adult hospitals may need to extend services to other populations).
			Populations to consider
			Children and their families
			Frail elderly and their caretakers
			Young adults
			Patients with chronic diseases (e.g., diabetes, hemodialysis)
			Physically or mentally challenged/individuals with disabilities
			Pregnant women
			Immunocompromised children and adults
			Others (specify)

Completed	In Progress	Not Started	
			Issues to consider
			Clinical expertise available
			Need for specialized equipment, medical devices, and medications
			Transportation
			Mental health concerns
			Need for social services
			Translation services/medical interpreters
			Cultural issues affecting behavioral response
			A plan has been developed for facility access during a pandemic that includes the following:
_	_	_	Criteria and protocols for modifying admission criteria on the basis of current bed capacity.
			Criteria and protocols for closing the facility to new admissions and referrals to other facilities.
			Criteria and protocols for limiting or restricting visitors to the hospital, including specific plans for communicating with patients' families about hospital rules for visiting hospitalized family members.
			A contingency plan has been developed in the event of hospital quarantine in conjunction with local jurisdictions to ensure quarantine is enforced and necessary supplies, equipment, and basic necessities can be delivered and maintained.
			A plan has been developed for facility security during a pandemic that includes the following:
			Hospital security personnel input into procedures for enforcing facility access controls.
			Plans for facilitating identification (e.g., special badges) of non-facility healthcare personnel and volunteers by security staff and facilitating their access to the facility when deployed.
			The identity of key and essential personnel who would have access to the facility during a pandemic.
			Recruitment and training of additional security personnel (e.g., local police, national guard) that is coordinated by the local health authority.
			Plans for establishing a controlled, orderly, flow of patients within the facility.
			An infection control plan that includes the following is in place for managing hospital patients with pandemic influenza: (For the most recent information on pandemic influenza infection control recommendations for staff in a healthcare setting, see www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/healthcare/maskguidancehc.html .)
			An infection control policy ⁶ that requires healthcare personnel to use at a minimum Standard Precautions (<u>www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/gl_isolation_standard.html</u> and Droplet Precautions (i.e., mask for close contact) (<u>www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/gl_isolation_droplet.html</u>) with symptomatic patients.
			A communication plan is developed to inform all hospital staff and employees about appropriate need for and use of infection control measures, social distancing practices, and personal protective equipment.
			Use of respiratory protection (i.e., N-95 or higher-rated respirator as feasible) by personnel who are performing aerosol-generating procedures (e.g., bronchosocopy, endotrachael intubation, open suctioning of the respiratory tract). Use of N-95 respirators for other direct care activities involving patients with confirmed or suspected pandemic influenza is also prudent. If supplies of N-95 or higher-rated respirators are not available, surgical masks can provide benefits against large droplet exposures. (Additional guidance available at www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/healthcare/maskguidancehc.html.)
			A strategy for implementing Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette throughout the hospital. (For information, see <u>www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/resphygiene.htm</u> .)
			A plan for cohorting patients with known or suspected pandemic influenza in designated units or areas of the facility.

⁶ Refer to HHS recommendations for infection control for pandemic influenza for recent updates or changes in recommendations. (www.hhs.gov/pandemicflu/plan/sup4.html)

Completed	In Progress	Not Started			
			updates/revisions of infe changes. Once a pandem known, HHS/CDC will J	ction control recommendation ic influenza virus is detected provide updated guidance or	toring <u>www.pandemicflu.gov</u> for ons and implementing recommended d and its transmission characteristics are n any need to modify infection control ndations will be published on
			Primary:		
			(Name)	(Title)	(Contact info)
			Backup:	(77.1)	
			(Name)	(Title)	(Contact info)
			effectiveness of the infec		procedures and for monitoring the
			eliminate language that may symptomatic with influenza-	encourage staff to work w like illness and especially v tional health plan for addr	ould be reviewed to identify and when ill or even when they are when they are within the period of ressing staff absences and other related he following:
				affing needs during various l	es the needs of ill and symptomatic levels of a pandemic health crisis. The
			The handling of per	sonnel who develop sympto	ms while at work.
			Allowing and encou	araging ill people to stay hor	ne until no longer infectious.
			When personnel ma	y return to work after havin	g pandemic influenza.
			Personnel who need care centers.	to care for family members	s who become ill or affected by closed
			Personnel who mus	t stay home to care for child	ren if schools and childcare centers close
					sess and report symptoms of pandemic shone triage system similar to that used
				avioral health, community a counseling to personnel dur	nd faith-based resources that will be ring a pandemic.
				ination will facilitate docun	of personnel. (Having a system in place nentation and tracking of pandemic
			for influenza compl employees 65 yrs o	ications ⁷ (e.g., pregnant wor f age and over). A plan migh	of a pandemic are at increased risk nen, immunocompromised workers, it include, for example, placing them on n, or other appropriate alternative.
			-		For useful information on this subject . <u>hhs.gov/pandemicflu/plan/sup7.html</u> .)
			current recommendation		n identified for obtaining the most availability, access, and distribution of ic.
					al have agreed upon the hospital's role, if d antivirals to the general population.
				rations during an influenza	er personnel who are essential for pandemic who would be the first priority
			A plan is in place for expression ecommended by the sta	bediting administration of in te health department.	fluenza vaccine to patients as
			A plan is in place for expression ecommended by the sta		al prophylaxis/treatment to patients as

Completed	In Progress	Not Started							
					in place for exp te health depar		dministration	n of influenza vacc	ine to staff as recommended
					in place for exp nded by the sta			ntiviral prophylax	is/treatment to staff as
				The vacci	ne/antiviral pla	an conside	ers the follow	ving:	
			_	How	decisions on a	llocation of	of limited va	ccine or antivirals	will be made.
				How event	-	eceive ant	iviral proph	ylaxis/treatment w	ill be followed for adverse
				Security is plans.	ssues have bee	en identifie	ed and addre	ssed in the influenz	za vaccine and antivirals use
									ressed and discussed with enza planning partners.
			Hea	althcare ser	vices				
				for patient	ts with chronic	diseases ((e.g., hemod		ons and continuing to care n services), women giving ated to influenza.
				Criteria ha surgeries.	ave been devel	loped for d	letermining	when to cancel ele	ctive admissions and
					d alternative ca				., to home care or pre- ocal, state, tribal, or regional
					zed and alloca				nt healthcare services must of survival) have been
					are has been de s and the publi		or communi	cating changes in h	nospital status to health
			Staf	fing					
									e minimum staffing needs essential facility operations.
					ngency staffing ill be utilized.	g plan con	siders how h	ealth professions s	students assigned to the
				may be m Volunteer	ade available t	through a S	State Emerge	ency System for A	aff, such as those who dvanced Registration of care when the hospital
				(e.g., retir (consisten	ed clinicians, t it with the JCA	trainees) and HO disast	nd includes ter privilegir	a procedure for rap	non-facility volunteers bid credentialing/privileging 10) and badging for easy d.
					ngency staffing to support crit			egy for cross-training	ng and reassignment of
								ative strategies for s without becoming	scheduling work shifts in g overtired.
				needs duri					ent of staffing status and act information of primary
					N()				
					Name)		(Title)		ontact info)
					Name)		(Title)		ontact info)
				Ì	,				
					ne criteria for d ng alternatives		"staffing cr	isis" that would en	able the use of emergency

In Progress	Not Started	
		Strategies have been developed for supporting personnel whose family and/or personal responsibilities or other barriers prevent them from coming to work (e.g., strategies that take into account the principles of social distancing when schools are closed, care of elders, transportation, reasonable accommodation or state governmental mandate).
		The staffing plan includes strategies for collaborating with local and regional planning and response groups to address widespread healthcare staffing shortages during a crisis, including the development of memorandums of advanced agreement (MAAs) and memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with regional and tribal healthcare partners.
		Consumable and durable medical equipment and supplies
		Estimates have been made of the quantities of essential patient care materials and equipment (e.g., intravenous pumps and ventilators, pharmaceuticals, diagnostic testing materials) and personal protective equipment (e.g., masks, respirators, gowns, gloves, and hand hygiene products), that would be needed during an eight-week pandemic with subsequent eight-week pandemic waves.
		Estimates have been shared with local, regional, and tribal planning groups to better plan stockpiling agreements.
		A strategy has been developed for how priorities would be made in the event there is a need to allocate limited patient equipment (e.g., ventilators), pharmaceuticals (e.g., antiviral and antibacterial therapy), and other resources.
		A plan has been developed to address related shortages of supplies (e.g., intravenous fluids, personal protective equipment), including strategies for using normal and alternative channels for procuring needed resources.
		A list of alternative vendors for medical devices, pharmaceuticals, and contracted services (e.g., laundry, housekeeping, food services) has been developed.
		A plan has been developed for maintaining critical laboratory testing capability in-house and priorities for tests that require shipping; back-up plans are in place for testing services that will remain in-house.
		A process is in place to track and report to public health and other response partners, in real-time, information regarding the status of the hospital and resources available that would identify burden on the system.
		Bed capacity
		Surge capacity plans include strategies to help increase hospital bed capacity.
		Signed agreements have been established with area hospitals and long-term-care facilities to accept or receive appropriate non-influenza patients who need continued inpatient care to optimize utilization of acute care resources for seriously ill patients.
		Facility space has been identified that could be adapted for use as expanded inpatient beds and this information has been provided to local, regional, and tribal planning contacts.
		Plans are in place to increase physical bed capacity (staffed beds), including the equipment, personnel and pharmaceuticals needed to treat a patient with influenza (e.g., ventilators, oxygen, antivirals).
		Logistical support has been discussed with local, state, tribal and regional planning contacts to determine the hospital's role in the set-up, staffing, and provision of supplies and in the operation of pre-designated alternate care facilities.
		Postmortem care
		A contingency plan has been developed for managing an increased need for post mortem care and disposition of deceased patients.
		An area in the facility that could be used as a temporary morgue has been identified.
		Logistical support for the management of the deceased has been discussed with local, state, tribal, or regional planning contacts and local coroners/medical examiners.
		Local morticians have been involved in planning discussions.
		Mortality estimates have been used to anticipate and supply needed body bags and shroud packs.
		Plans for expanding morgue capacity have been discussed with local, State, tribal and regional planning contacts.