



Defense Health Board

Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Subpanel Update

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Subpanel Membership

- **Dr. Gregory Poland** (Mayo Clinic)
- **Dr. Francis Ennis** (University of Massachusetts Medical School)
- **Dr. Joseph Silva** (University of California, Davis)
- **Dr. Michael Oxman** (University of California, San Diego)
- **Dr. Edward Kaplan** (University of Minnesota)
- **Dr. Mark Miller** (Fogarty Center, NIH)
- **Dr. Walter Dowdle** (Emory University)
- **Dr. Pierce Gardner** (Fogarty Center, NIH)
- **Dr. Clifford Lane** (NIH)
- **Dr. John Clements** (Tulane University)
- **Dr. David Walker** (UTMB)



Background

- **Select Subcommittee on Pandemic Influenza Response and Preparedness – established by Dr. Winkenwerder in late 2005**
- **Goals**
 - **Assist DoD in PI planning and response**
 - **Specific issues of concern include:**
 - **Epidemiology**
 - **Response**
 - **Vaccine**
 - **Antivirals**
 - **PPE**
 - **Surveillance**



ROE

- DoD-specific
- Focus on areas within the DHB's and DoD's sphere of influence
- Focus on both immediate and future recommendations
- Focus on what's feasible



Background

- Letter of Agreement (Dec 05)
 - Advisory role only
- DoD Pandemic Planning Overview (Jan 06)
- PI Scenarios (Jul 06)
- Role of Children in PI (Jul 06)
- DoD PI Response – Specific Planning and Research Recommendations (Mar 06, Jul 07)
- Use of 1203 H5N1 vaccine (Jul 07)
- Use of PPE (Jul 07)
- Recommendations on vaccine, antivirals, convalescent plasma (Jul 07)
- Recommendations on Southern Hemisphere Vaccine (Oct 07)
- Recommendations on Convalescent Plasma Therapy (Jun 08)
- Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Recommendations (May 09)



Specific Issues

- Anti-viral Recommendations
- Vaccine Recommendations
- DoD and Interagency Decision-making
- PI Research Recommendations
- Convalescent Plasma Recommendations
- PPE Recommendations
- Novel Flu Diagnostics Recommendations
- Antimicrobial Stockpile Recommendations
- Pneumococcal Vaccine Recommendations
- Phase I-IV Clinical Trial Recommendations



Recent Activity

16 September 2009 Meeting

- Representatives present from Health Affairs, DHHS, and MILVAX
- Received updates concerning DoD preparedness and response in regard to the H1N1 pandemic
 - Pneumococcal and H1N1 Vaccine Plans
 - Antiviral and PPE stockpiles
 - Active and passive vaccine safety surveillance plans following H1N1 vaccination



Findings

- **Nationwide collaborative efforts regarding H1N1 vaccine safety surveillance**
 - DoD, HHS, and CDC
 - NVAC's Vaccine Safety and Assessment Working Group (Poland and Garman)
 - Sharing of information in the effort to standardize and synchronize entries across different databases
 - Vaccine Safety Datalink as model for DoD data structure approach and statistical techniques to be employed



Findings

- **Potential significant challenges in the event pandemic worsens include:**
 - Availability of trained providers within DoD
 - Shortage of ICU nurses and supplies
 - Budget issues



Findings

- **Recent activities undertaken by DoD include:**
 - Standardization of definitions and risk windows
 - Identification of ICD-9 codes for surveillance foci
 - H1N1 vaccine three-phase surveillance study protocol submitted for IRB approval
 - Heightened active surveillance: DoD increasing expansion of rapid diagnostic platform for agent identification and confirmation
 - Pursuit of various communication approaches to inform providers and public and mitigate concerns regarding H1N1 vaccine safety



Findings

- **Careful attention should be paid to diagnostic criteria and role of expert panel that would determine whether a case meets definition for a specific adverse event**
 - **Lessons learned from Guillain-Barré Syndrome experience**
- **Reiterate previous recommendation regarding ensuring essential resources be available in event of surge capacity**



DISCUSSION