

2008 Concluding Assessment - Alabama

Strategic Goal: Protect Citizens

Appendix B.1 Ensure Surveillance and Laboratory Capability During Each Phase of a Pandemic: ALABAMA		
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Supporting Activity	Rating	Comments
Sub-objective B.1.1 - Implementation Steps for Enhanced Human Surveillance		
Does the plan include implementation steps for enhanced human surveillance to rapidly detect initial cases of pandemic influenza virus in humans early in a pandemic that include the following:	2	
Conducting year-round surveillance for seasonal influenza (e.g. virologic and outpatient visits) including electronic reporting		Activity addressed but protocols for surveillance are lacking.
Methods for notification of healthcare providers of enhanced surveillance testing and reporting recommendations		Well cited in supporting document
Method for healthcare providers to contact the State health department to report cases that meet the criteria for pandemic influenza testing and obtain the appropriate testing		Adequately cited. Protocol for notification of ADPH field staff is actually better addressed in answer for next question.
Does the plan include identification of influenza surveillance coordinator positions?	3	It is hard to determine if th Analysis and Reporting Branch Manager and Field Surveillance Branch Manager are the designated influenza surveillance coordinators. Will assume so for purposes of this review. Initial part of paragraph should go with previous answer.
Does the plan include a plan for investigation of early cases and clusters of pandemic influenza?	2	Plan referenced, but copy of plan should be included in submission.2

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Is there a plan for reporting early novel influenza cases to CDC on a daily basis?	2	
Activity Added by State		
Sub-objective B.1.2 - Monitoring of Influenza-Related Hospitalizations and Deaths throughout the Pandemic		
Does the plan include a plan for developing systems or identifying data sources for monitoring severe disease throughout the pandemic such as:	3	
Developing and implementing a Statewide electronic death reporting system or accessing sources of electronic death data (e.g., vital records data)	3	
Developing methods for estimating or counting influenza-associated deaths if no electronic data are available	2	No mention of protocols/forms
Monitoring the number of pneumonia and influenza hospitalizations using tabulated data from hospitals or available electronic sources	3	
Estimating rates of influenza associated hospitalization for your jurisdiction	2	No mention of how denominator data will be determined from which to calculate rates.
Sub-objective B.1.3 - Procedures for Notification and Information Sharing		
Does the plan include a process for information sharing between the following:	2	
Health Departments	2	Process addressed, but no protocols provided.

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Hospitals	2		
Medical Examiners			
Vital Statistic Offices		3	Well described
Other stakeholders (e.g. DoD)		3	Infrastructure is described, but what protocol or forms are used for information sharing between Epi and Vital Statistics.
Does the plan include links between animal and human health surveillance systems?	1	DoD resources are described, but process for sharing information is missing, excepting mention of ADPH enter for Emergency Preparedness	
Does the plan include staff identified with contact information for information sharing between the animal and human health surveillance systems?	3	Good description of process of notification between ADPH and State Veterinarian.	
	2	Staff Identified, No contact information is listed.	
Sub-objective B.1.4 -Operating Steps to Obtain and Track Impact of the Pandemic			
Does the plan include a plan to obtain, track and report numbers and rates daily to the State department of health and to the CDC in a timely manner during the early period of pandemic influenza virus introduction and spread on the following:	3		
Attack rate in early case or cluster investigations	3		

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Case fatality rate	2	What forms or protocol will be used for data collection?	
The numbers of hospitalized persons with pandemic influenza or rate of pandemic influenza-associated hospitalization		3	
The numbers of newly isolated and quarantined persons			
The number of pandemic influenza-associated deaths		2	Protocol no stated. How would field staff monitor in the midst of a pandemic? Who are the local points of contact?
		3	
Sub-objective B.1.5 - Implementation Steps for Augmenting the Capacity of Public Health and Clinical Laboratories			
Is there a plan to augment the capacity of public health and clinical laboratories to meet the needs of their jurisdiction during an influenza pandemic? Capacity includes but is not limited to:	3		
The ability to test for influenza viruses year-round			
Performing PCR or IF Testing for rapid detection and subtyping of influenza viruses			
Protocols for safe specimen collection and testing			
How and to whom a potential case of novel influenza should be reported			

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Mechanism for submitting specimens to referral laboratories		
Protocols for proper handling and shipment of specimens		
Protocols for notifying and reporting any novel specimen findings		
Sub-objective B.1.6 - Systems and Procedures that will be used to Exchange Specimen-Level Data Electronically Among Laboratories		
Does the plan include systems and procedures that will be used to exchange specimen-level data electronically among laboratories within the following:	3	
Healthcare facilities	3	
Other clinical laboratories	3	
State public health laboratories	3	
CDC	3	
Sub-objective B.1.7 - Call-Down Procedures		

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Does the plan include call-down procedures and laboratory staff contact information?	3	
Sub-objective B.1.8 - Locations for Additional Laboratory Facilities		
Does the plan include locations of and Memoranda of Agreement with additional laboratory and personnel facilities to enhance current laboratory capacity for a response of pandemic proportions?	3	
Sub-objective B.1.9 - Implementation Steps for Augmenting the Capacity of Public Health and Clinical		
Is there a plan to augment the capacity of public health and clinical laboratories to meet the needs of their jurisdiction during an influenza pandemic? Capacity includes but is not limited to:		
The ability to test for influenza viruses year-round		
Performing PCR or IF Testing for rapid detection and subtyping of influenza viruses		
Protocols for safe specimen collection and testing		
How and to whom a potential case of novel influenza should be reported		
Mechanism for submitting specimens to referral laboratories		
Protocols for proper handling and shipment of specimens		
Protocols for notifying and reporting any novel specimen findings		
Activity Added by State		
SUM OF RATING	34/39	
CORRESPONDING PERCENTAGE	87%	

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ASSESSMENT	No Major Gaps	NOTE: Columns B and C are hidden
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