

Update on Influenza



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Overview

- Status of avian influenza
- Advances in pandemic planning within the Health Department
- Preparations for seasonal influenza
 - LBDHHS public flu clinic
 - Employee flu clinics



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Types of Flu

- Human flu: influenza virus that predominantly infects humans
- Avian (bird) flu:
 - A strain of influenza that predominantly infects birds
 - Some types may occasionally infect humans who have close exposure to birds
 - Influenza H₅N₁: the current strain of bird flu that is affecting numerous birds in Asia and spreading to other countries



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Countries with Confirmed Cases of H5N1, July 7, 2006

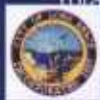


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Human Cases of Avian Flu – WHO, October 3, 2006

Country	2004		2005		2006		Total	
	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths
Azerbaijan	0	0	0	0	8	5	8	5
Cambodia	0	0	4	4	2	2	6	6
China	0	0	8	5	12	8	21	14
Djibouti	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Egypt	0	0	0	0	14	6	14	6
Indonesia	0	0	19	12	50	40	69	52
Iraq	0	0	0	0	3	2	3	2
Thailand	17	12	5	2	3	3	25	17
Turkey	0	0	0	0	12	4	12	4
Viet Nam	29	20	61	19	0	0	93	42
Total	46	32	97	42	105	70	252	148



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H5N1 Surveillance

- Human:
 - WHO monitoring human cases overseas, and the virus still **does not pass easily person-to-person** (most infections due to contact with infected birds)
 - **No human cases of H5N1 in the North American continent to date**
 - Testing for human cases of H5N1 is now available in LBDHHS laboratory
- Animal:
 - Surveillance of migrating waterfowl ongoing
 - **No animal cases of H5N1 detected in North America to date**



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**For Health and Safety,
Please DO NOT Feed The Animals.**

**Para la Salud y Seguridad,
Por Favor NO DAR de Comer
a los Animales.**



City of Long Beach, Department of Health and Human Services
2525 Grand Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90813
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Comparison of Seasonal Influenza and Pandemic Influenza

Seasonal Flu

- Local flu activity that occurs every year, usually in winter, in temperate climates
- Caused by "old" strains: usually some immunity built up from previous exposure
- Healthy adults usually not at risk for serious complications (the very young, the elderly, and those with certain health conditions at increased risk for serious complications)
- Vaccine for seasonal flu is based on known virus strains

Pandemic Flu

- Worldwide outbreaks that have occurred sporadically throughout history
- Caused by "new" strain: little or no pre-existing immunity
- Healthy people of all age groups may be at risk for complications, not just to "at risk" groups
- Vaccine against a pandemic flu probably will not be available in the early stages of a pandemic because the virus strain will be new



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WHO Phases of Pandemic

- Phase 1: **Inter-pandemic phase:** Low risk of human cases
- Phase 2: **New virus in animals, no human cases:** Higher risk of human cases
- Phase 3: **Pandemic Alert, New Virus causes human cases:** No or very limited human-to-human transmission
- Phase 4: **Pandemic Alert, New virus causes human cases:** Evidence of increased human-to-human transmission
- Phase 5: **Pandemic Alert, New virus causes human cases:** Evidence of significant human-to-human transmission
- Phase 6: **Pandemic:** Efficient and sustained human-to-human transmission



How would pandemic flu affect our community?

- If an influenza pandemic occurs, many people could become sick at the same time and would be unable to go to work
- Healthcare system will be stressed, and there may be critical shortages of health care resources
- Many would stay at home to care for sick family members
- Schools and businesses might close to try to prevent disease spread
- There may be shortages of food, medicines, critical supplies (gasoline, etc.)



Long Beach Projected Impact

Advisory Committee
Business Summit
Public Education

470,000

Healthcare Community

Up to 35% of population will become ill	164,500
Up to 19% of population will require outpatient visits	89,300
Up to .4% of population will require hospitalization	1,880
Up to .1% of population will die of flu-related causes	470



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Public Health Response

- Surveillance and Epidemiology
- Vaccine Delivery
- Antivirals
- Containment Measures
- Surge Capacity Planning
- Risk Communication



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Advances in Planning/Preparations

- Surveillance and Epidemiology
 - Public health response teams being formed and trained
- Vaccine/antiviral delivery:
 - Functional exercise of point-of-dispensing (POD) model done Feb, 2006
 - Plans adjusted accordingly
- Antivirals: evaluating local stockpiles
- Risk communication/training: numerous lectures/trainings performed for hospitals and city departments (police, fire), 7 part tabletop exercise series starting next month



Advances in Planning/Preparations

- Containment Measures
 - Orders of isolation and quarantine completed (with help from City Attorney's office)
 - Protocols for isolations and quarantine developed, review panel formed
- Surge Capacity Planning
 - Planning group with hospital representatives
 - Inactive beds evaluated
 - Volunteer group of physicians formed



Advances in Planning/Preparations

- Community Preparations
 - Pandemic influenza and emergency preparedness information on our website
 - Advisory Council formed
 - Pandemic Influenza Business Summit tomorrow, October 11, from 1-5 PM at The Grand, 4101 E. Willow St.
 - Will focus on continuity of operations (COOP)
 - Over 1000 local businesses, community and faith-based organizations, academic institutions, and city managers and key staff invited
 - Register at www.sratraining.com/lbsummit



Preparations for Seasonal Influenza

- Season typically starts late fall
- Influenza already detected in several areas of the state
- Vaccination plans:
 - LBDHHS Public Flu Vaccine Clinics
 - City of Long Beach employee flu vaccine plans



LBDHHS Flu Vaccine Clinics

- Vaccine provided by the state, limited to following target groups:
 - People \geq 60 years old or \leq 5 years old
 - People 6-59 with chronic medical conditions (such as heart or lung problems, weak immune system, etc.) that put them at increased risk for serious complications from influenza
 - Pregnant women
- Others can get flu shots through private doctors or various locations (www.findaflushot.com)



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LBDHHS Public Flu Vaccine Clinics

Date	Day	Time	Site	Address
10/24	Tues	9AM – 12PM	LB Senior Center	1150 E. 4 th St.
10/26	Thurs	9AM – 12PM	Houghton Park	6310 Myrtle Ave
11/2	Thurs	9AM – 12PM	El Dorado Park (West)	2800 Studebaker Rd.
11/9	Thurs	9AM – 12PM	American Gold Star Manor	Spring at Santa Fe
11/14	Tues	9AM – 12PM	California Recreation Center	1550 MLK Ave.
11/16	Thurs	9AM – 12PM	Health Dept	2525 Grand Ave
11/28	Tues	1PM - 4PM	Health Dept	2525 Grand Ave
11/30	Thurs	1PM - 4PM	Health Dept	2525 Grand Ave



Reservation number: 562-570-4270

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City Employee Vaccination

- 750 doses will be available (unrestricted) on a first-come-first-served basis at clinics planned at the main library on November 15 and 17
- Further details will go out via e-mail or in a paycheck insert
- Any vaccine not distributed during the clinics will be available by appointment in Occupational Health clinic



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Summary

- H5N1 still a potential threat, but not present locally and not a pandemic
- We've made great advances in pandemic preparations, but we've still got a lot to do
- Seasonal flu is here, so get your vaccine if indicated, wash your hands a lot (hand hygiene) and cover your coughs and sneezes (respiratory hygiene)!



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