

Big Four Public Health Non-Profits' (APHL, ASTHO, CSTE, NACCHO) Communication and Coordination Exercise, in conjunction with CDC's Pandemic Influenza Exercise, September 12–14, 2018

S1: Governmental/Non-Governmental Preclearance of Stockpiled Vaccine Implementation Guidance

Suggested Injects

- On behalf of the southern border states, the State Epidemiologist of Arizona asks CSTE if there has been any guidance from CDC on using stockpiled vaccine for school vaccination campaigns.
- During ASTHO's conference call with Preparedness Directors, the Preparedness Director in Massachusetts asks if there are any changes to the policy on using stockpiled vaccine for pandemic influenza.
- Bloomington Health Department has contacted NACCHO. Indiana University is looking for guidance from the health department and CDC on using stockpiled vaccinations ahead of the upcoming university football season due to the high number of cases reported in their community.
- The Warren County Health Department in Virginia is informing NACCHO that Sysco Foods, a large national food distributor, will not be operating their closed POD. The company is requesting that 1,000 employees and family members go to the Warren County Health Department's open POD. Warren County is requesting additional vaccine, supplies and personnel.

S2: Message Dissemination of implementation guidance for National Stockpile vaccine approved for release

Suggested Injects

- CDC's Epi and Lab Task Force contacts CSTE and APHL to host an emergency call with state epidemiologists and state laboratory directors about new implementation guidance for National Stockpile vaccine.
- CDC's State Coordination Task Force asks ASTHO to send new implementation guidance for National Stockpile vaccine to SHOs.
- On behalf of the southern border states, the State Epidemiologist of Arizona asks CSTE if CDC has issued any risk communications messaging in Spanish regarding the release of the National Stockpile vaccine for school vaccination campaigns.
- Local health departments and healthcare facilities in region X are reporting that the state health department and state public health laboratory have issued conflicting guidance on which vaccinations should be used for at-risk populations. The local health departments have contacted NACCHO and are requesting that ASTHO, NACCHO, CSTE and APHL work with CDC to issue clarifying guidance.
- State and local health departments and public health laboratories are being overwhelmed with the amount of messaging, conference calls and internal meetings related to the pandemic and use of National Stockpile vaccine. They are asking national associations (ASTHO, NACCHO, CSTE and APHL) to triage information coming from CDC and other federal and national stakeholders.

S3: Determination Virologic Surveillance Testing Guidance for Public Health Laboratories

Suggested Injects

- A state public health lab or APHL contacts CDC's Epi-Lab Task Force to say PHLs are being inundated with specimens and are requesting CDC release guidance on national virologic surveillance needs with regards to number of specimens to test. They also ask what and how many specimens need to be referred to the NIRC.
- The Governor of X state just announced that every patient will be tested by the state PHL. The Influenza Coordinator and State Lab Director need guidance on what testing is needed for surveillance purposes and talking points from CDC to explain why every patient does not need to be tested.

S4: Message Dissemination of Virologic Surveillance Testing Guidance for Public Health Laboratories

Suggested Injects

- CDC's Epi and Lab Task Force contacts CSTE and APHL to host an emergency call with state epidemiologists, influenza coordinators and public health laboratories about testing guidance, NIRC specimen referrals and communication points.

S5: Collaborative engagement among the Associations to meet an EMAC request

Suggested Injects

- Early in the Pandemic, the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) contacts ASTHO EOC for help with requests from four border states (Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California) for Spanish-speaking public health lab staff and epidemiologists, needed to assist in State Public Health response - specifically epidemiology investigation and lab sample reporting to health agencies, both intra-state and cross border with Mexico. NEMA is interested in developing EMAC resource teams, four total, to be deployed to each of the four border states.